

## Heathrow men defy union as air crisis worsens

British Airways' European and domestic flights from Heathrow were cancelled again yesterday after engineering workers' shop stewards had refused to obey their union's call to resume normal working. Last night formal dismissal notices were being prepared by the airline, though a settlement formula appeared to be a possibility. Leaders of British Leyland tool-makers pledged "indefinite strike action if necessary" in support of the Heathrow men.

## Company prepares for dismissals

Christopher Thomas, an engineering union shop steward at Heathrow yesterday maintained their unofficial industrial action in the face of concerted opposition from all the unions at British Airways. European and domestic flights were cancelled for the fourth day.

With formal dismissal notices being prepared by the airline, the situation was at a critical stage late last night as union-management talks went on in the official forum of the national joint council for civil transport.

One of the 14 British Airways unions has declared support for the engineers, who are protesting at the erosion of their rights for skilled workers. The union wants separate agreements outside the main structure, and improved pay. Their shop stewards met yesterday morning but refused to show to an instruction from a High Court judge, president of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers to resume normal working.

At provincial airports, however, AUEW members were returning to normal working yesterday, and British Airways did not expect domestic flights from airports other than Heathrow to be near normal. Flights to Europe will also be at normal levels.

Long-distance flights, more of which are likely to be grounded by the dispute, will be reduced to a minimum. Those scheduled with flight numbers, such as 442 to Baghdad, 591 to New York, and 561 to Boston from Philadelphia.

Mr. Michael Birch, an AUEW executive member, met all the shop stewards at Heathrow yesterday and said afterwards: "I was pleasantly surprised at my reception. I expected

to be booed. It was good-natured and held in a good spirit."

Mr. Birch was sent as a peace emissary by the AUEW to try to persuade the men to call off their action.

Crowds of men reported for work again yesterday at the start of the 8 am shift instead of reporting for their designated shifts; they were told there was no work for them.

Mr. Frank Gates, one of the five stewards heading the action, said: "Aircraft can and would fly if the management used these members."

The AUEW stewards of British Airways have withdrawn from the local machinery of the bargaining structure and were not represented at yesterday's union-management talks.

The disputes at Leyland, Heathrow and Port Talbot are indicative of the intense bitterness felt by skilled blue-collar workers at their loss of differentials over less skilled men.

With the airline facing a total shutdown over Easter at Heathrow, British Airways engineering supervisors, based in the three passenger terminals, yesterday criticized the way in which the management was handling the dispute.

A telegram sent on behalf of 40 day-shift supervisors condemned the threatened shutdown. A representative of the men said the airline was hell-bent on confrontation.

British Airways denied that, citing the frequent meetings held by the national joint council.

Support from toolmakers: Leaders of the British Leyland toolmakers yesterday pledged "indefinite strike action if necessary" in support of the Heathrow engineers (Clifford Webb writes). They are sending a deputation to Heathrow today to consult the engineering shop stewards about the most effective support.

## Widespread curbs on football hooligans

By Hugh Noyes  
Parliamentary Correspondent

Mr. Howell, Minister of State for Sport and Recreation, yesterday announced in the Commons a wide range of measures to control football hooliganism. They included stiffer legal penalties, ticket-only matches, controls over trains and coaches carrying supporters, and better segregation of rival groups inside football grounds.

The minister, who was clearly annoyed by the rioting after the Manchester United match against Norwich last Saturday, stated that as far as visiting supporters of Manchester United were concerned the trouble had to be reduced immediately to manageable size. That would be in the interests of the club, its opponents, and the towns in which the games were being played.

Mr. Howell said that on the unanimous recommendation of his working party, which included representatives of the Football Association and the Football League, those two organizations would ensure that all future Manchester United away matches would be ticket-only occasions. In no circumstances would any tickets be available on the day of the match, and all terrace tickets would be sold exclusively to supporters of the home club.

The minister said there had been three serious incidents involving 40-called supporters of Manchester United in three weeks. The principal offenders seemed to have little connexion with Manchester and travelled from many parts of the country. Clubs would be told to discourage the recognition of supporters clubs around the country and instructed not to make tickets available to them.

Mr. Howell said that he and his working party were to tell British Rail and the coach operators that it was irresponsible to organize travel to all-ticket matches unless the stewards had admission tickets. They would be told also that there should be no alcohol on supporters' coaches or trains.

Mr. Howell said stiffer penalties were being proposed in the Criminal Law Bill, which would be considered by the Commons after Easter. It recommended that football hooligans under 17 should report to attendance.

Stewards on Saturday afternoon, Birching "an answer" Mr. Tommy Docherty, manager of Manchester United, was far from impressed with Mr. Howell's measures (Excel reports). "Bristol City have done something positive," he said. "More than Mr. Howell has done."

Earlier, Bristol City had banned Manchester United supporters from attending the league match on May 7.

Mr. Docherty said on the television programme Sportnight that he thought corporal punishment, perhaps birching, might be the answer to football hooliganism.

Supporters banned, page 2  
Parliamentary report, page 6

## Kissinger warning on 'supine acceptance' of Zaire invasion

From Fred Emery  
Washington, April 6

Dr. Henry Kissinger has given a characteristic warning that if what he calls the invasion of Zaire is "supinely accepted by the international community, sooner or later events will get out of control."

The former Secretary of State, giving his first public speech since his departure from office, took the opportunity of a lecture at Georgetown University last night to deliver a not too subtle homily to the Carter administration about its handling of foreign policy.

Dr. Kissinger stoutly supported the President whenever he mentioned his name, but he was more restrained than he has been reported to be in private, but he clearly upbraided Mr. Carter's men—and the rest of the West—for inaction over Zaire.

Not that Mr. Carter would

"The most serious errors of American policy this century occurred when America's moral zeal grew out of balance with its pragmatic tradition. Our challenge is to steer a course between rhetorical prescription and a callous acceptance of inhumanity. . . ."

agree. Mr. Cyrus Vance, the Secretary of State, took the matter up in Moscow, with what result is not clear. But Dr. Kissinger was blunter about "irresponsible and dangerous" Soviet involvement in the Zaire affair.

He declared with reference to the incursion of Katangans from Angola: "It is clear that the attack took place across a sovereign border from a country in which the Government was installed by Soviet arms and the military personnel of a Soviet client state."

"It could not have taken

place—and it could not continue—without the material support or acquiescence of the Soviet Union, whether or not Cuban troops are present. Such irresponsible acts set a dangerous precedent."

"If all African problems are to be settled hereafter by radical means with weapons brought in from outside, a catastrophic race war in southern Africa will become more and more likely with profound implications for us both at home and around the world. If attacks across sovereign borders are supinely accepted by the inter-

national community, sooner or later events will get out of control," he stated.

Dr. Kissinger did not prescribe what action ought to be taken. But he is known to believe that powerful military support for the Katangans regime is urgent, coupled with a warning to the Kremlin.

For those in his audience accustomed to his style and thinking, he did not have to complain too loudly over the handling of the strategic arms limitation talks (Salt). Nor did he have to dwell too heavily on his own distaste for

Mr. Carter's protestations about human rights and morality. In one passage he argued gravely that the most serious errors of American policy this century—of isolation and overinvolvement—"both occurred when America's moral zeal grew out of balance with its pragmatic tradition. . . . Our challenge is to steer a course between rhetorical prescription and a callous acceptance of inhumanity."

Dr. Kissinger made it clear that he thought he and President Ford had bequeathed to Mr. Carter the best chance in two decades to lead the nation forward. "Significant opportunities for major progress" had been passed on in regard to Salt.

And, while those out of office must not pretend that problems would have been less complicated had they remained Continued on page 7, col 5



Chinese convicted of crimes are held up to public scorn by being paraded in Wuhan with placards stating their names and crimes.

## Partnership offer for some inner city areas

By Christopher Warman  
Local Government Correspondent

The Government yesterday offered a partnership with the worst affected cities, an extra £55m a year in urban aid, and continuing help through the rate support grant in its proposals for tackling the inner-city crisis in Britain.

The proposal is designed to reverse the decline in inner cities, maintain and increase jobs by encouraging industry, and create a better life in those long neglected areas.

Mr. Shore, Secretary of State for the Environment, said at a press conference after speaking in the Commons that the Government was committed to an urban programme of £1,000m over the next decade. But the urban programme, which the Department of the Environment takes over from the Home Office, extending its scope to cover economic and environmental as well as social projects, was not the largest part of the resources the Government intended to pour into the inner urban areas.

"The major part is the movement of money to local authorities through the need element of the rate-support grant to the areas of greatest needs," he said.

For the present year the needs element aid for inner London amounted to £300m. Liverpool £70m, Birmingham £105m, and Manchester £67m—"very substantial sums showing a substantial increase over the last four years."

Mr. Shore's statement was welcomed by the Association of Metropolitan Authorities, which represents the main conurbation. Mr. Tom Cullot, its secretary, said the statement recognized the central place that the rate-support grant distribution had in ensuring that more grant went to the authorities in greatest need. "In our view this must remain the central feature of the Government's financial assistance to inner cities."

Mr. Shore's announcement will be followed after Easter by a White Paper giving more details.

Continued on page 2, col 3

## Barclays in disarray over bonds

By Our Business News Staff

Faced with a barrage of questions about its South African subsidiary buying £5.5m of South African defence bonds last year, Mr. Anthony Tuke, chairman of Barclays Bank, yesterday said the bonds had to be held for 12 months.

He said the decision to buy the bonds was made after a long and careful management, and that the bank's Revenue regulations on the independent direction of companies treated overseas subsidiaries for tax purposes meant the main board could not tell the South African management to sell its holding.

Mr. Tuke made it clear the crowded annual meeting which was made after riots in town and other black townships last year—had been handled judiciously. Although he would not give any assurance that the bonds would be sold by this time next year, he said he had made "suggestions" to the local management in the interests of Barclays' activities throughout the world.

Mr. Tuke was asked by one of the anti-apartheid shareholders, the Rev David Haslam, at more the South African Government had to do to persuade the company to sell its investment in South Africa. Mr. Tuke said that these investors had been made on "commercial grounds, not political."

He conceded that there might come a time at which a group would have to consider pulling out.

The meeting was momentarily disrupted by the initial refusal of both shareholders and the chairman to hear Mr. Peter Bin, the anti-apartheid campaigner, who was there by proxy for another shareholder. Mr. Bin, was, however, given an opportunity to make his point to those shareholders who wanted to speak had done so.

## West acts together to confront Mr Vorster

From Nicholas Ashford  
Johannesburg, April 6

Ambassadors representing the five Western members of the United Nations Security Council—Britain, the United States, France, West Germany and Canada—are to see Mr. Vorster, the South African Prime Minister, tomorrow afternoon to hand him a joint Note setting out their position on the constitutional future of Namibia (South-West Africa).

The contents of the Note have not been made public, but it is understood to advise the Prime Minister that South Africa's current policy on Namibia is unacceptable to the West and that the Turnhalle proposals for independence will be rejected.

It is also believed that the five countries are insisting that the South African Government implement Security Council resolutions on the territory, which would amount to allowing the United Nations to play a decisive role in leading Namibia to independence.

Mr. P. Botha, South Africa's new Foreign Minister, who was previously representative at the United Nations, will be present at tomorrow's meeting. The Note will be handed over by Mr. William Bowdler, the American envoy, who is the senior of the five ambassadors involved.

The five countries are known to be opposed to the ethnic basis of the proposed Turnhalle constitution as well as the plans for elections and a referendum in the territory. They also believe that South Africa must start negotiations with the South-West African People's Organization (SWAPO).

The Western moves come at a time when the South African Government is drawing up legislation for the installation of an interim multi-ethnic government in Namibia. It is expected that this interim government will be set up in June or July of this year and that full independence will be achieved by the end of 1978.

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## British eggs to go metric with seven weights instead of five sizes

By Hugh Clayton  
Agricultural Correspondent

Compulsory metrication of British eggs was announced yesterday. The Government chose the week before Easter to tell growers, who now call eggs large, standard, or medium, that they would have to sell them by numbers at the end of the year.

The change is one of the least known of the obligations Britain accepted in joining the EEC. The country was allowed to postpone it for five years during which traders decided to oppose it as vigorously as possible.

Mr. Bishop, Minister of State for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, said yesterday that he wanted the change from the present five grades (large, standard, medium, small and extra small, the last two used mainly in industry) to be as smooth as possible.

Traders said shoppers would be confused because none of the seven numbered EEC

ment, which has defied the Community by paying a national pig subsidy, has taken no public stand against the egg rule.

Mr. Richard Weir, director of the Retail Consortium, said: "We have objected to this system in every way we could. We feel that the British system is simpler and clearer." Mr. Ian Hunter, an official in the poultry division of the National Farmers' Union, said: "The union has always been against it. There is going to be a cost which will have to be passed to the consumer."

Mr. Neville Wallace, director-general of the British Poultry Federation, said: "We feel that our Government did not fight this at least publicly, as hard as they might have." He called on the Government to finance a campaign to educate shoppers about the change.

The Consumers' Association welcomed it, because it was logical to have regular intervals between grades.

New grades	Grams	UK sizes
1	Over 70	Large
2	Over 65	
3	Over 60	
4	Over 55	Standard
5	Over 50	
6	Over 45	Medium
7	Under 45	Small and Extra small

grades spaced at intervals of five grams, corresponded exactly to any of the British five.

Nearly half the 13,000 million eggs sold in Britain each year are now called standard. Under the EEC system they may be in grades three, four or five, depending on weight.

The EEC Commission, which spared Britain Euro-bread and Euro-beer, has not relaxed on Euro-eggs. The British Govern-

## New political slant to kidnapping in Italy

From Our Correspondent  
Rome, April 6

Political terrorism in Italy has taken on a new and alarming dimension with the kidnapping of the son of Signor Francesco de Martino, the former Socialist leader.

Signor Guido de Martino, who is 34 and a local Socialist leader in Naples, was abducted by four people outside his father's home there last night.

It was the first kidnapping to involve a politician. Previously victims have been either wealthy people or, if the purpose was political, magistrates or civil servants.

The exact purpose of last night's kidnapping and the probable identity of its authors are still not clear.

Signor Francesco de Martino said that, whoever the culprits might be, no one believes any more that they are left-wing. The possibility of a ransom motive seems remote as the family is not rich.

"They can only get books out of us, certainly no money," the father said. Signor Guido de Martino, who is married with two young children and whose wife is expecting a third, is secretary of the Naples provincial branch of the Socialist Party. He had just left a party meeting when he was kidnapped.

A neighbour in his father's road, drawn to his window by the noise of a scooter outside, saw him being bundled into a grey Fiat and driven off at top speed. The neighbour immediately gave the alarm and roadblocks were set up all over Naples, but no trace of the car was found.

## Mr Healey gives hint of autumn reflation

Mr Healey, the Chancellor, told industrial and trade union leaders that he may be able to give a fresh stimulus to the economy later in the year. He said at a meeting of the National Economic Development Council that the additional stimulus depended on trends in the Public Sector Borrowing Requirement, the balance of payments figures, and the resolu-

tion of uncertainty over wage costs. People at the meeting were left with the impression that the Chancellor was thinking about a boost to the economy in the autumn.

Mr Healey's statement will add to speculation that he believes his Budget last week leaves him with significant room for further reflation later in the year.

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## Inflation-proof pensions decision

The future of inflation-proofed pensions in the public sector and public sector will be decided independently of any agreement reached on a third phase of pay restraint. The Cabinet is anxious not to antagonize public sector trade unions representing, for example, the power engineers, but it has also to consider its pact with the Liberals. Mr. John Pordoe, the Liberals' economic spokesman, is a long-standing critic of index-linked pensions.

Page 2

## Nurses at risk in casualty wards

Nurses in casualty wards, particularly those in inner-city areas where drug addicts and drug addiction are particularly common are being subjected increasingly to violence by patients, a nursing journal says.

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## Attempts to save Mentmore fail

Despite strenuous attempts to save Mentmore Towers for the nation the last-minute efforts have failed. The mansion and its art collection will be sold in a series of auctions next month.

Page 2

## Act to curb US bureaucracy

President Carter signed into law the Reorganization Act which gives him authority to drastically reorganize Government agencies and departments. He recalled that he had campaigned in the election on promises to clear up the "horrible bureaucratic mess" in Washington.

Page 8

## Jenkins snub for 'kitty bargaining'

A suggestion by Mr. Booth, Secretary of State for Employment, of "kitty bargaining", with employers and unions deciding distribution of pay increases within an agreed level, was rejected by Mr. Clive Jenkins, Secretary of the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs. Resolutions tabled for the Scottish TUC also seek collective bargaining.

Page 2

## Widow's will: A country police sergeant won his High Court claim to a £200,000 inheritance

Paris: Threat grows of new conflict between French Government and unions as thousands lose jobs.

Page 7

India: Mrs. Gandhi says she acted alone in proclaiming emergency and announces she is retiring from politics for the time being.

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Features, pages 14, 15

David Spenser interviews the outgoing Israeli ambassador; Ronald Spurr on reactionary right. Sport, pages 10 and 11.

Goit: John O'Leary leads in Portuguese Open; Peter Ryder expects March to do well in the Masters.

Business News, pages 21-22. Business Diary: The United States Senate ennobles Mr. Harold Lever, demotes Mr. Tony Benn and switches Mr. Roy Jenkins to the Conservatives.

Peter Jay Column: A Spanish example of workers' co-operatives. Business feature: John Whitmore explains why there could be increased competition this year among savings groups.

Stock markets: City was firm on MLR hopes but equities fell again and the FT index closed two points lower at 400.5.



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By Peter Hennessy

## Aged 'diddled', Mr Steel says

Mr Steel, leader of the Liberal Party, yesterday accused the Government of "ultimate cynicism" in diddling pensioners out of their promised pension increase.

The match inflation last November (our Social Services Correspondent writes).

He told the annual meeting of Help the Aged that the Social Security Act 1975 had offered pensioners some protection against rising prices. But they were diddled by the Government's arbitrary decision to raise inflation in 1974 and November, 1976 as the dates between which to judge price rises in relation to the pension increase. This gave the figure of 19 per cent and saved £500m on public expenditure, Mr Steel said.

Mr Steel, leader of the Liberal Party, yesterday accused the Government of ultimate cynicism in diddling pensioners. He said he promised 21 per cent increase to match inflation last November (four Social Services Correspondent writes).

He said the annual meeting of House of Commons on the Social Security Act, 1975, had offered pensioners some protection against rising prices. But they were diddled by the Government. He said he would choose November, 1975, and November, 1976 as the dates between which to judge price rises in relation to the pension increase. This gave the Government of 12 per cent and saved £500m on public expenditure", Mr Steel said.

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### By Our Political Correspondent

in due course, to point to specific gains if we are able to make the agreement. I am not inclined to do this in the months ahead," Mr Steel said he was not too worried by the difficulties experienced in the Liberal and Conservative partnership at the stage of making the agreement work, "particularly when disagreements have arisen on subjects that could not have been taken into the consultative machinery."

The two hundred or so Liberal candidates came from all parts of Britain and appeared to have been well briefed to dissent the explanations given by Mr Steel and Mr Padoa-Schioppa, the deputy leader, about the difficulties that arose when the two parties were asked to join the Government in advance of the "no-confidence" debate. There was much sympathy for Mr Graham Gossip, who was pushed into fourth place by the Conservative Front at the Strechford election.

**By Tim Jones**

**By Penny Syron**

## Police injured in rioting at motor circuit, QC says

A meeting at the Silverstone motor racing circuit in Northamptonshire last summer ended in a battle between the police and 300 enthusiasts, who caused £10,000 damage, it was stated at Reading Crown Court yesterday. Kluge was on the rampage, overturning, stealing and demolishing stalls and other property in the night. It was stated.

When the police arrived they were pelted with bricks, rubble, bottles and cans, and many were injured. A chief inspector was knocked unconscious. Mr John Baker, QC, for the prosecution, said:

Glenn Murgatroyd, aged 18, a mechanic of Trawden, near Colne, Lancashire, admitted rioting and was sent to a detention centre for six months. Seator Aircraftsman John Turling, aged 22, of RAF Odiham, Hampshire, admitted damaging a marquee and was bound over for three years in the sum of £350.

Mr Baker said that after the trouble began some people were so afraid they left their belongings behind and fled from the camp site. People were screaming and pushing one another.

Eight other men denied rioting and damage charges. Their trials will take place next month.

## By Diana Geddes

Bristol City Football Club announced yesterday that it has decided to ban Manchester United supporters from the match which will be the two teams' first meeting there on May 7. It is the first time that any club has taken such a step to curb the behaviour of its fans.

Bristol City's decision was taken after Manchester United supporters went on the rampage after their team's defeat at Nottingham Forest on May 4.

Mr Anthony Rance, secretary of Bristol City, said no tickets would be sold to Manchester United supporters for the match on May 7. Sales would be restricted to a certain disclosed radius of the Bristol match, which excludes London. Some of the worst trouble-makers came from London, he

By Mark Jackson, of *The*

**Times Educational Supplement**  
Unemployed young people risk being damaged by contact with embittered teachers working with them on crisis relief schemes, the National Union of Teachers said yesterday.

Mr Anthony Rance, secretary of Bristol City, said no tickets

ould be sold to Manchester United supporters for the match on May 7. Sales would be restricted to a certain number of tickets per person, a switch, which excludes London, some of the worst trouble-makers came from London, he said.

The Bristol club believed that it could fill the 37,000-capacity stadium with people from the north-west and Wales, who wanted to see the match in comfort and without fear.

He believed that only a small proportion, perhaps a twentieth, of the Manchester United supporters would be likely to cause trouble. But the club felt it had duty to stop the violence and protect the Bristol people.

Since taking its decision on Monday night, the club's board of directors has been in touch with Manchester United, the

## Continued from page 1

Emphasizing the need for a new direction for urban policies, Mr Shore said the priority must be for the main objectives and programmes of government to be directed to a better life in the inner areas. They had already moved strongly in that direction in the past, but the new area policy. An inner-area dimension was needed in other main programmes, and local authorities, which must be the main agents, for or co-ordinating their own priorities and give a new inner-area emphasis to their policies and organization.

An immediate priority must be to improve the economies of those areas. "Subject only to priority for regional policy, suitable firms will be encouraged to establish themselves in the inner areas of the major cities. We shall introduce legislation to enhance the powers of local authorities to enable inner-area problems to serious inner-city industries to designate industrial-improvement areas. We shall encourage

local authorities to give more consideration to the needs of industry, particularly of small firms in their planning policies."

The Government's proposal for special partnerships to certain cities will involve the joint preparation of inner-area programmes in order to secure coherent "across-the-board" support. Urban grants will be paid and related to those programmes.

It was proposed to offer partnerships to Liverpool, Birmingham, and Salford, all of which have severe and large-scale inner-urban difficulties, and in London to Lambeth, and the dockland authorities that were ready to start programmes in urban areas.

"The Government will consider proposals for partnerships with other authorities with major inner-area problems. It will be necessary, however, to ensure that the selection if any, is based on the best use to be made of extra resources."

Outside the partnership arrangement, authorities would

**By Our Political Staff**

The Government's devolution proposals sprang from nothing more than an ignoble and ill-disguised attempt to save Labour seats in Scotland, Mr Francis Pym, opposition spokesman on devolution, said yesterday.

Mr Pym, who was speaking at the Federation of Conservative Students' annual conference in Egham, Surrey, said the Government had not thought through its proposals. They were a hodgepodge morally lacking in any constitutional principle.

From Stewart Tendler

**Belfast**

The fifth member of the Ulster Defence Regiment to die this year was shot and murdered yesterday near his home in Londonderry.

Corporal Gerard Cloete, aged 46, a parttime member.

The Londonderry brigade of the Provisional IRA last night accepted responsibility.

Mr Cloete had set off for work on a factory bus when his car was stopped on the Glenside area by another car. The killers fired a burst of bullets at his car and escaped.

He had set off for work at 8.15 on a factory bus when his car was stopped in the Glenside area by another car. The killers fired a burst of bullets at his car and escaped.

Mr Cloete, who was married with a family, joined the UDR in 1972.

Today 12 regular soldiers and two former soldiers are to appear before Belfast magistrates on charges of theft, receiving and handling stolen goods. The men are alleged to have taken place during the

John Higgins & Sons Fein

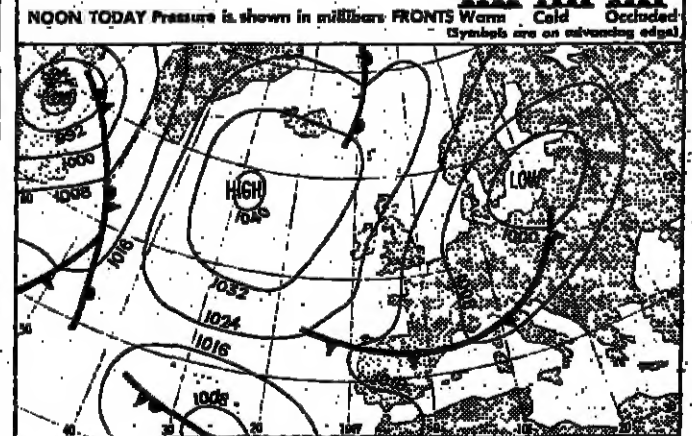
representative, was jailed at the Central Criminal Court yesterday for 10 years for offences under the Prevention of Terrorism Act.





Judge Griffith-Jones, the Common Sergeant, passed maximum sentences on Mr Higgins, aged 34, an electrician from London, an afroschick from London, who sneezed, muttered "It's a pity I did not go to Eton."

Mr Higgins, of Rothsay Road, Luton, was given two years for receiving six portable radio sets for use in connexion with acts of terrorism in the Republic of Ireland and contacts with Irish officers; and guilty of soliciting John B. Banks and others to give 1,000 M1 carbines, ammunition and accessories, intending that they should be used for the same purpose.

Edward Caughey, aged 45,

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100	101	102	103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118	119	120	121	122	123	124	125	126	127	128	129	130	131	132	133	134	135	136	137	138	139	140	141	142	143	144	145	146	147	148	149	150	151	152	153	154	155	156	157	158	159	160	161	162	163	164	165	166	167	168	169	170	171	172	173	174	175	176	177	178	179	180	181	182	183	184	185	186	187	188	189	190	191	192	193	194	195	196	197	198	199	200	201	202	203	204	205	206	207	208	209	210	211	212	213	214	215	216	217	218	219	220	221	222	223	224	225	226	227	228	229	230	231	232	233	234	235	236	237	238	239	240	241	242	243	244	245	246	247	248	249	250	251	252	253	254	255	256	257	258	259	260	261	262	263	264	265	266	267	268	269	270	271	272	273	274	275	276	277	278	279	280	281	282	283	284	285	286	287	288	289	290	291	292	293	294	295	296	297	298	299	300	301	302	303	304	305	306	307	308	309	310	311	312	313	314	315	316	317	318	319	320	321	322	323	324	325	326	327	328	329	330	331	332	333	334	335	336	337	338	339	340	341	342	343	344	345	346	347	348	349	350	351	352	353	354	355	356	357	358	359	360	361	362	363	364	365	366	367	368	369	370	371	372	373	374	375	376	377	378	379	380	381	382	383	384	385	386	387	388	389	390	391	392	393	394	395	396	397	398	399	400	401	402	403	404	405	406	407	408	409	410	411	412	413	414	415	416	417	418	419	420	421	422	423	424	425	426	427	428	429	430	431	432	433	434	435	436	437	438	439	440	441	442	443	444	445	446	447	448	449	450	451	452	453	454	455	456	457	458	459	460	461	462	463	464	465	466	467	468	469	470	471	472	473	474	475	476	477	478	479	480	481	482	483	484	485	486	487	488	489	490	491	492	493	494	495	496	497	498	499	500	501	502	503	504	505	506	507	508	509	510	511	512	513	514	515	516	517	518	519	520	521	522	523	52
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Today		Tomorrow	
	Sun rises : 6.23 am		Sun rises : 6.21 am
	Sun sets : 7.44 pm		Sun sets : 7.45 pm
	Moon sets : 8.23 am		Moon rises : 12.13 am
	Moon rises : 12.13 am		Moon sets : 9.14 am

Yesterday		Tomorrow	
<b>Last quarter: April 10.</b>		<b>Last quarter: April 10.</b>	
<b>Lighting up: 8:14 pm to 5:51 am.</b>		<b>Lighting up: 8:15 pm to 5:49 am.</b>	
<b>High water: London Bridge, 4.38</b>		<b>High water: 5.23</b>	<b>7.6mi</b>
<b>am, 7.8m (25.7ft); 5.4 pm, 7.6m</b>		<b>(25.0ft): 5.48 pm, 7.2m (23.8ft).</b>	
<b>(25.0ft). Avonmouth, 10.22</b>		<b>Avonmouth, 11.1</b>	<b>13.0m</b>
<b>13.7m (45.0ft); 10.40 pm, 13.4m</b>		<b>(44.7ft); 11.21 pm, 12.6m (41.3ft).</b>	
<b>(43.9ft). Dover, 1.45</b>	<b>am, 7.0m</b>		

A cold N stream covers the E, central N, NE England,

British Isles.  
Forecasts for 6 am to midnight :  
London, SW, central S England,  
Channel Islands: Wind N, moderate  
or fresh, frost early; max temp  
8°C (46°F).  
Midlands, Wales, NW England,  
Lake District, Isle of Man: Sunny  
strong, becoming fresh, frost  
early; max temp 6°C (43°F).

spells, scattered rain and snow showers; wind N, strong, becoming fresh, frost early-; max: temp 7°C (45°F).

SE England, East Anglia : Sunny intervals, rather frequent showers of rain and snow; wind N, strong, becoming fresh, frost early; max

SW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll, N Ireland : Sunny spells, scattered showers of sleet or snow; wind N, strong, becoming fresh, frost early; max temp 6°C (43°F).

Orkney, Shetland : Sunny intervals, snow or hail showers; wind N, strong to gale; max temp

Temp 6°C (43°F).		4°C (39°F).					
WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY MIDDAY: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow.							
Akrethi	C F	Colome	C F	L. Palma	C F	Nagete	C F
Aligora	21 70	Copacabana	26 79	L. Lima	20 68	Nice	18 65
Amsterdam	11 50	Dublin	7 45	L. Louren	14 57	Olelo	12 54
	45	Edinburgh	41	L. M. M.	14 57		

Barcelona	18	61	Pierrelle	17	63	Luxemburg	6	43	Rostovskiy	7	32
Belfast	9	43	Punchall	17	63	Madrid	15	56	Rome	7	36
Berlin	7	45	Quemener	13	55	Malorca	1	31	Stuttgart	1	31
Biarritz	18	64	Gibraltar	18	64	Malaga	1	19	Stockholm	1	31
Birmingham	9	48	Guernsey	9	38	Malla	2	28	Tel Aviv	1	36
Bristol	11	52	Helsinki	10	30	Manchester	9	43	Venice	6	19
Buenos Aires	11	52	London	10	30	Moscow	1	31	Vienna	1	32
Budapest	12	51	Istanbul	9	39	Munich	1	30	Zurich	1	32
	9	48	Jersey	9	32						

~~b-blue sky; bc-half clouded; c-  
cloudy; o-overcast; f-fog; d-drizzle;  
h-hail; m-mist; r-rain; s-snow;  
ts-thunderstorm; p-showers; ps-  
periodical rain with snow.~~

**Outlook for tomorrow and Satur-**

day : Sunny intervals, wintry showers, perhaps longer periods of rain or snow, particularly in N. and E ; cold, night frost.

Sea passages : S North Sea. Strait of Dover : Wind N, strong to gale, becoming fresh ; sea very

English Channel (E): Wind N, strong, becoming moderate; sea rough, becoming moderate.

**Yesterday**  
London : Temp : maximum, 7 am  
to 7 pm, 11°C (52°F) : minimum,  
7 pm to 7 am, 8°C (46°F).  
Humidity : 7 pm-71 per cent.

Rain, 34 hours to 7 pm, 0.81 in.  
Sun, 24 hours to 7 pm, 0.1 hour.  
Barometer, mean sea level, 7 pm,  
1,011.8 millibars, rising.  
1,000 millibars=29.53 in.

---

**Overseas selling prices**

Austria, Sch	17.00	Belgium, WFR	2.25
Cameras, Pes	43.00	Denmark, Dkr	4.00
Finland, Fmk	3.00	France, Fcs	3.20
Inc. TVA		Germany, Dmk	2.30
Greece, Gr	50.00	Holland, Dfl	2.00
Italy, Lit	50.00	Luxembourg, Lzt	2.20
Malta, Mls	20.00	Malta, Mls	20.00
Markets, Esc	20.00	Norway, Nkr	4.00
Portugal, Esc	20.00	Sweden, Skr	4.00
Spain, Ptas	20.00	Switzerland, Sfr	3.50
USA, Can	3.00	USA, Can	3.00
Yugoslavia, Ddn	24.00	Yugoslavia, Ddn	24.00

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Here is the Burberry forecast:



"Weather is a literary speciality, and no untrained hand can turn out a good article on it."  
Mark Twain  
We couldn't have put it better ourselves.

**Burberrys**

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# “Why does ITT go on investing in Britain?”

The last few years have not, to put it mildly, been good ones for the British economy.

And yet, in 1976 for example, ITT companies in Britain invested no less than £18 million in new plant and machinery. Plus another £15 million on research and development.

Which isn't to say that ITT is a philanthropic organization lending Britain a helping hand with no thought to its own financial stability or profitability.

Far from it.

ITT has always prided itself on being profitable, and intends to remain so.

And its investment programme in Britain has always been planned on that basis.

The results:- in the past, healthy profits year after year, even during the recent recession.

And for the future, the renewed conviction that, given the right resources and backing, British industry can match the world for efficiency. And profitability.

ITT companies in Britain include: Abbey Life Assurance, Ashe Laboratories, Excess Insurance, ITT Consumer Products, Rimmel, Sheraton, Standard Telephones and Cables and Standard Telecommunication Laboratories. For further information, including the latest edition of a 20-page publication "Facts about ITT in Europe," please write to 190 Strand, London WC2R 1DU.

**ITT**



## HOME NEWS

## Casualty-ward nurses 'facing increase in violence from patients'

By John Roper

Health Services Correspondent

Nurses in casualty wards, particularly those in inner-city areas where there is more drunkenness and drug addiction than elsewhere, are being subjected increasingly to violence by patients, a leading nursing journal says today.

The Nursing Times names casualty units at the East Birmingham hospital, the Middlesex in London and three hospitals in Liverpool where nursing staff have been prepared to talk about violence by patients. It says the subject is difficult to research because nurses are conscious that incidents are likely to be treated as "sensational" and might reflect badly on themselves, colleagues, the hospital and the profession.

Miss Frances Cowper-Smith, who before joining the journal worked as casualty sister at a hospital in west London, says that interviews with nursing staff showed at best widespread dissatisfaction and at worst nightly terror in casualty units.

Incidents listed include assaults by patients on nurses and doctors by kicking, scratching and biting, destruction of equipment and damage to doors and windows.

At the East Birmingham Hos-

pital the sister in charge, now working in York, had records of violent incidents going back for six years. They included an epileptic, aged 40, brought to the department by eight policemen, who was so violent that three of the officers had to have emergency treatment.

Miss Cowper-Smith said at a press conference that apart from alcoholism, drug addiction and physical disorders there were patients whose sudden aggression could not be labelled. Many more people were going to hospital casualty departments, often with trivial complaints, and sometimes when they had to wait because the unit was busy with emergency casualties they lost their tempers and were violent.

What was needed, in the opinion of nurses, was training of general nurses in how to cope with violent patients. Nurses with psychiatric training working in mental hospitals were much better in controlling aggressive patients. The possibility of attaching a trained psychiatric nurse to accident and emergency units should be explored.

The Royal College of Nursing said last night that it was concerned about serious difficulties in the departments. Nurses concerned with accident and emergency departments would meet the Casualty Surgeons' Association next week to discuss drawing up guidelines on how to cope with violence by patients.

## Date for postal vote claims

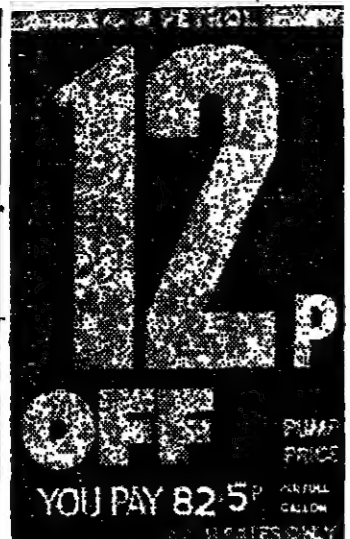
Applications for postal votes in the Greater London Council elections and for county councils in England and Wales on May 5 must be received by the local electoral registration officer by April 19.

Postal votes may be granted because of blindness, illness, occupation, service or employment, but not absence on holiday.

## Bank staff urge stiffer sentences

Representatives of 34,000 bank employees called on the Home Secretary yesterday for stiffer jail sentences for armed and violent bank robbers.

In answer to what it describes as increasing concern from its members, the Barclays Staff Association passed a resolution at its conference, at Nottingham, demanding deterrent jail sentences for such criminals.



Signs of the times, but not for long.

## Petrol retailers face fines for misleading

By Ronald Emier

Petrol retailers will face a maximum fine of £400 for displaying misleading price advertisements, Mr Fraser, Minister of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, said yesterday in a Commons written reply. He said that the Government had decided to take statutory action soon to enforce the voluntary code agreed between the trade and the Office of Fair Trading last September.

According to a survey, little more than half of all garages with promotional display signs were complying with the code, he said. Because voluntary measures were not enough to secure general adherence to the code, the Government would

"within weeks" introduce an order under section 4 of the Prices Act, 1974. The order would, in general, follow the provisions of the voluntary code.

Under the order every pump will have to be marked with the price of the petrol sold from it. Where garages are offering reductions or incentives, signs will have to be clear and unambiguous.

All price signs will have to be clearly visible to the motorist from inside the car before he enters a forecourt. Filling stations will no longer be able to say "10p off pump prices" but will have to say, for example, "net cash price 80p" or "10p off pump price of 90p".

## Order for invalid tricycles

The Government has placed an order for two thousand invalid tricycles at a cost of £1,850 each, Queen Elizabeth's Foundation for the Disabled said yesterday.

The tricycles have been criticised as unsafe, and the Department of Health and Social Security decided to phase them out and give the disabled a mobility allowance of £5 a week instead. But many disabled

people said the allowance was not enough and they would prefer tricycles.

The foundation said yesterday that a group from one of its units had met three MPs to protest against withdrawal of the tricycles.

Mr Lewis Carter-Jones, Labour MP for Eccles, had told them that new cars were being designed, and that the tricycles would be replaced in five to seven years.

## Speed limits will be raised from June 1

By Peter Waymark

Motoring Correspondent

The temporary speed limits imposed in December, 1974, to save fuel, are to be raised from June 1, Mr Rodgers, Secretary of State for Transport, announced in the Commons yesterday. The 60 mph limit on dual carriageway roads will go back to 70 mph and the 50 mph limit on single carriageways will be raised to 60 mph.

The minister ruled out any change in the present motorway limit. He said he believed 70 mph was right in all circumstances and was against its being raised to 80 mph.

Mr Norman Fowler, Conservative spokesman on transport, said the announcement was a victory for all who had pressed for change. The present limits confused many drivers; his only regret was that they had not been changed earlier.

The new limits were also welcomed by the motoring organizations. The Automobile Association said: "They are in line with the views we have consistently expressed to the Government. The 50 mph limit never really worked either in road safety or fuel-saving terms, and had to go."

"We hope this is only the first step in a wider review of all speed limits. For instance, the raising of the limit on all-purpose dual carriageways raises the question whether the existing limit on motorways should not be higher."

The Royal Automobile Club said speed limits must be easily understood by everyone and must be realistic. The long-awaited return to reality should mean compliance by most drivers, without which limits might fall into disrepute and become unenforceable.

Parliamentary report, page 6

## Vehicle tests 'are still not tough enough'

The extended vehicle roadworthiness test is still not stringent enough, the Consumers' Association argues in the latest issue of *Motoring Which?* magazine. It suggests that independent test stations, rather than garages, should conduct tests.

The magazine says the new amendments to the test are clearly sensible but adds that they do not "go any way towards solving the unsatisfactory situation we highlighted six years ago; over half the cars we submitted for test passed when they should have failed."

"We still believe an annual test is essential but we think the best way to bring about an effective test is to have a national network of independent test stations."

"Until standards of testing reach a uniformly high level the MoT test is unlikely to play its full part in promoting road safety."

*Motoring Which?* points out that the test involves no dismantling

## Mr Benn rejects opencast coal mining proposal

Opencast coal working on 200 acres at Horsgate, near Choppell, Tyne and Wear, has been rejected by Mr Benn, Secretary of State for Energy, on environmental grounds. The coal board said the site contained about 350,000 tons, of which half was prime coking coal.

There were widespread protests when the mining was proposed and after a public inquiry the minister's inspector advised rejection. Mr Benn said that although the case was finely balanced he had decided to accept the recommendation.

## Maths degree course

A new three-year degree course in mathematics will be introduced at the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology in October. The aim is to help in overcoming the shortage of mathematics teachers in schools.

## Ex-sergeant wins claim to £200,000 inheritance

Kenneth Davies, a country police sergeant who became friendly with a colonel's widow more than 30 years his senior, won his High Court claim yesterday to a £200,000 inheritance under her last will.

Mr Justice Walton upheld Mrs Violet Salmon's will, made in the sergeant's favour in August, 1973, three months before she died at the age of 80.

He dismissed a challenge by five beneficiaries under a 1971 will. They claimed that Mrs Salmon was mentally incapable and suffering from delusions when she made her last will.

Mr Davies, aged 51, who retired from the force earlier this year, said after the result: "I'm pleased with the outcome. I took a certain amount of lashing but I am still bobbing about."

The judge said that suggestions that Sergeant Davies was making up "Mrs Salmon purely for her money were quite wrong."

The sergeant, married, with two grown-up sons, of Blaby's Cleeve, Gloucestershire, first met Mrs Salmon in 1970 when she was 77 and he was 45. She lived alone in Lewisham Park, a remote estate in Gloucestershire, and made many telephone calls to the police. The calls were "cries for help from an elderly woman craving company", the judge said.

Sergeant Davies came roaring on the drive of Trevelyan Park on his motor cycle and into her life. It was not long before, to the great scandal of her relations and to the surprise of her friends, she fell head over heels in love with him.

Sergeant Davies was fascinated by her. "He was trapped in the aura of Mrs Salmon as the rabbit is trapped in the headlights of an approaching car. How can I be so certain? Because you could still see, shining out of his eyes in the witness box as he spoke, the complete sense of admiration, nearer to adoration, which he came to feel for her. He still worships her."

The costs of the case, estimated at more than £30,000, will be paid out of Mrs Salmon's estate.

## In brief

## Deaths on coast set new record

A record number of 239 people died in accidents around Britain's coasts last year, an increase of 40 over 1975, the coastguard authority reported yesterday. Deaths through cliff falls totalled 139.

Coastguards were involved in 13,274 incidents in 1976 in which 7,684 people, another record figure, were rescued.

## Stone fire

More than six thousand electrical appliances were lost in fire estimated to have caused more than £500,000 damage to the main stores of the South Wales Electricity Board in Cardiff yesterday.

## Inquiry over PVC

After anxiety by residents about the possibility of a "poisonous fall-out", the Department of the Environment is to hold a public inquiry into a plan to double the production of polyvinyl chloride (PVC) by Vinnac on the Staveley industrial complex near Chesterfield, Derbyshire.

## Theft by doctor

A woman doctor, Tasman Aslam, aged 26, from India, was fined £150 with £25 costs for robbing a Gloucestershire County, London, yesterday while shopping. She works at Harewood Hospital, London.

## Lower temperatures

As an economy measure of heating in old people's homes in Essex is to be reduced to a maximum of 70°F and in children's homes and those for the mentally handicapped to a maximum of 68°F.

## Woman of 90 robbed

Mrs Lillian Stapleton, age 90, who was robbed near her home at Southall, London, Tuesday night, was taken to hospital with a fractured arm and leg.

## Nine hurt in crash

Nine people were taken to hospital in Newcastle-upon-Tyne yesterday after a collision involving an ambulance, a bus and a car.

## Polish education

Paul Morrison reports on race developments in higher education in Poland. Sir Norman Lindop describes the "real technique" contribution to the supply of scientific manpower and full details of the University Grants Committee's allocation to individual universities are given in *The Times Higher Education Supplement* today.

## Rail network may revive inner Liverpool area

From Robert Parker

A £45m underground railway system is to open in three stages from May 2 in Liverpool, giving the Merseyside conurbation the biggest commuter network in the country outside London by the end of the year.

It is hoped that the project will go far to restore the life and prosperity of part of derelict inner Liverpool, as well as to provide one of the most integrated transport networks in the kingdom.

It has involved large-scale engineering work in the construction of an inner "loop" and "link" under central Liverpool. In the process the four main inner stations have been connected with the suburban and Inter-City routes. The suburban lines run deep into Cheshire, into the Wirral and north into Lancashire.

Although the project has been constructed and linked with full reference to regional planning considerations and designed to integrate itself with buses and cars, it already faces several difficulties.

Not least of them is the drop in the number of people travelling into Liverpool from the conurbation. When the system was being planned in the late 1960s 160,000 people commuted in and out each day. The estimates then were for the figure to rise to about 200,000 by this time.

But so far only about 95,000 people commute each day. That is said to be the result of the policy now reversed, of the past 15 years of moving people out of inner Liverpool to the new and expanding towns in the hinterland.

The latest structure plan suggests that that should be reversed and that people be encouraged to return to Liver-

pool. It is obviously hoped that the new scheme will play an important part in reversing present trend.

Buses will be able to drop passengers at bus stops on y forms and motorists drive stations and leave their cars free of charge.

However, busmen are happy about what they see as a threat to their jobs and present they are saying they will not cooperate in providing extra buses if the train service breaks down.

In addition there is a campaign to save the Mersey ferries. British Rail says that there would be an £500,000 a year in rail revenue. There is to be a public inquiry about the future of the ferries and the local seaport transport executives trying to get through the House a Bill that would allow a new way to breathe new life into Liverpool.

At a press conference yesterday British Rail issued the comparing bus times for the Mersey road tunnels to the new rail service. They are: motor cycles, free (prevail 1p); motor cycles and trailers, 15p (10p); cars light vehicles under three tons laden, 25p (20p); cars and goods vehicles over three tons laden, 50p (50p).

## Three men are cleared in bank fraud trial

Three men in the Bank of Scotland fraud trial at Winchester Crown Court were found not guilty on the judge's direction yesterday after defence submissions on the sixtieth day of the trial.

The three are Robin Gerald Barry, aged 31, of Stratford Road, Milton Keynes, Peter Robert Starr, aged 44, of Calverton Road, Story Stratford, both in Buckinghamshire, and Michael Ralph Honig, aged 47, of Shirehall Park, Hendon, London.

They and seven others denied defrauding the Bank of Scotland of more than £750,000 by false valuations on property deals. The total loss to the bank is said to be £600,000.

Adjourning the case until next Tuesday week, Mr Justice Maise told the jury that the trial of the seven might last until the middle of July.

## Looping the loop in search of adventure at 81

Mrs Victor Bruce, who looped the loop in a Chippa aircraft above Lusitania at Bristol, yesterday. She last flew in 1938.

Mrs Bruce, of Priory 5, Bradford-on-Avon, Wilts, who holds 17 motor records, was accompanied by her flight by Mr R. Hooper, chief flying instructor of Bristol and Wessex plane club. With three cut to help her test to reach control pedals, she flew for minutes, ending with a loop.

In 1930, Miss Bruce almost around the world in a Blackburn Bluebird said yesterday: "I do not flying. I never have. But I adventure. I feel there is enough adventure in life days, and it is in the time was."

The lowest tar King Size cigarette  
As shown in H.M. Government tables March 1977

Peter Stuyvesant  
EXTRA MILD 20  
MILD CHOICE TOBACCOS  
KING SIZE

-with Europe's most advanced filter

PS Extra Mild King Size  
...setting the pace in modern smoking.

LOW TAR GROUP As defined in H.M. Government Tables.

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## HOME NEWS

## Caravan sites costing £30m sought to hold rising gypsy numbers

By a Staff Reporter

A network of encampments costing £30m is needed to hold the growing gypsy population of England and Wales, according to a report published yesterday that criticizes the failure of recent legislation to meet their needs.

The report, written by Mr John Cripps, chairman of the Countryside Commission, for the Department of the Environment and the Welsh Office, estimates a shortage of 300 official gypsy sites, in the face of an increase in the number of gypsies from 3,400 families in 1965 to between 8,000 and 9,000. Only 133 official sites had been created since the Caravan Sites Act came into force in 1970.

"Provision exists for only a quarter of the estimated total number of gypsy families with no site of their own," the report says. "The figures demonstrate a failure, and a growing failure, to perform a statutory duty."

The report had a mixed reception yesterday. The Association of District Councils said that a paramount requirement was the need for district councils to be given power to curtail unauthorized encampments where an official site had been provided in their areas.

Mr Frank Bushell, chairman of the Association of Housing and Environmental Health Committees, said the association was critical of the proposal that the Government should use wide powers to direct local authorities to provide a crash programme for reducing existing gypsies against unauthorized camps. What was needed was not direction from national level but allocation of resources for local authorities to deploy at their own discretion.

Mr Marks, Under-Secretary of State for the Environment, said in a parliamentary written reply yesterday that he planned to examine at first hand the provision of gypsy caravan sites in various parts of England. The lack of adequate sites was the main source of tension between gypsies and house-

holders.

The report attributes the Act's ineffectiveness to the

hostility of public opinion towards gypsies, to the extent of local councillors being afraid for electoral reasons to vote in favour of setting up an encampment, and on the gypsies' own conduct. "The behaviour of these gypsies does nothing to commend them to house-

dwellers as neighbours. A significant number adopt threatening postures, and not only when they are the worse for drink."

The report urges the Government to give gypsies accommodation the same priority it affords to housing, and to guarantee grants to cover the full cost of establishing the required sites over the next five years.

At local authority level, Mr Cripps recommends council help for gypsies to buy or lease land, and sale to local authorities of appropriate land by the Property Services Agency. "It would be to everyone's advantage if as many gypsies as possible were to find their own accommodation rather than to rely on local authorities to provide it at the public expense," the report says.

It also recommends the removal of an upper limit of 15 caravans to an urban site, and the appointment of gypsy liaison officers in counties and boroughs where the gypsy population warrants it. New encampments should provide a variety of long-stay and stop-over facilities.

Mr Cripps emphasized that, while responsibility for the gypsies' "right of legal abode" rests with local authorities, the Government is committed to respect, not assimilate, the gypsies' lifestyle. "Whatever the previous policies, the secretaries of state now accept the gypsies' right to a nomadic existence for so long as he wishes to continue it."

The Minority Rights Group said of the report: "It is a good start, and a welcome amendment to the battle for an end to the authority-enforced misery of gypsy life."

Mr Thomas Caulcott, secretary of the Association of Metropolitan Authorities, said: "Even if no money could be found, finding sites acceptable to both the mobile gypsy population and the settled community would remain as difficult as ever."

Accommodation for Gypsies, by John Cripps (Stationery Office, £1).

College inquiry into deaths of under-50s

Sir Cyril Clarke, retiring President of the Royal College of Physicians, announced yesterday that the college was establishing a unit to inquire into the deaths of patients under 50 to try to establish why they died. The unit would look first at deaths from asthma, valvular disease of the heart and ulcerative colitis.

Deaths from such complaints might have something to do, for example, with hand-over of treatment at weekends, he said. The college, he said, had also started a self-assessment programme by which doctors could examine themselves.

£1,176,022 debts

Mr William Francis Palmer, an accountant and chairman of Westminster Avenue, a London football club, has total debts of £1,176,022, it was stated at London Bankruptcy Court yesterday.

Mr Palmer, aged 47, of Woodside Road, Woodford Green, who showed his deficiency at £261,188, had his examination adjourned until November 2.

He agreed that he had issued cheques that were dishonoured, and said most of them were mislaid.

Two polo cases

A 19-year-old is in an isolated hospital suffering from polio myelitis. It is the third case of the disease in the North-east this year.

Guernsey police pay

Guernsey's police force has decided by a majority vote to ask away from the United Kingdom wages system and negotiate for local rates.

European direct elections debate to be split

Our Political correspondent

Mr Foot, Leader of the House, came under fire from backbenchers in the Commons yesterday when he announced the debate on the Government's paper on direct elections to the European Parliament in the House resumes after Easter recess will be split. A first part will take place Wednesday, April 20, and conclusion on Monday, April 25.

MPs protested because they thought that a debate on two successive days would make more orderly discussion, but Mr Foot said the Government had taken into account representations from all quarters.

It was later explained that groups in particular have been given special consideration. During the first week in Parliament resumes the European Parliament will be in Strasbourg; in the second week it will be the turn of the Council of Europe. By

splitting the debate Mr Foot has opened the way for MPs attending those assemblies to take part in the Westminster debate.

At present the Government proposes that the debate should take place on the motion for the adjournment of the House, but it is likely that a group of MPs, mostly Labour, will mount a vote to demonstrate that they are opposed to the general principle of direct elections. Warning of that was clearly given by some Labour backbenchers at Tuesday's meeting of the Parliamentary Labour Party.

Mr George Gerdner, Conservative MP for Reigate, a leading spokesman for the pro-Europeans, said at Derby yesterday that Conservatives should be wary of the highly expensive pressure campaign being mounted to get us to swallow "proportionate representation" for next year's elections to choose the 81 British members of the European Parliament.



Dame Janet Baker rehearsing with Mr George Malcolm (harpist) and his ensemble for the opening concert last night at the New Gallery, Regent Street, London.

## Warning on surcharge guarantees

Tourists are warned today that holiday surcharge guarantees offered by tour companies may be misleading. The Consumers' Association says the small print should be read with care.

In the latest issue of Which? magazine it says a "no surcharge" guarantee may not be quite what you think. Which? investigated guarantees offered by 28 tour operators and only six were fully approved. Even they had conditions that government action through value-added tax or taxes might mean extra costs.

Which? says: "In practice, the most you can hope for is a guarantee which promises no surcharge unless extra charges are imposed by governments."

The other operators all had conditions attached to the guarantees. Five companies had small print reserving the right to alter prices or offering no guarantee at all or a more limited guarantee than their competitors.

Queen's Park Rangers lost its £45,833 claim in the High Court for damages against Sheffield Wednesday, which, the London club maintained, had sold to Rangers for £55,000 a player who was a fit QPR.

The judge said that Danny Williams, then Sheffield Wednesday's manager, had told Leslie Allen, the QPR manager, on the day before the transfer that Mr Mobley was fit. That was not a false statement, as had been alleged by QPR.

The allegations have not been proved. QPR got the worst of the bargain and have sustained a disappointment, the judge said. He gave judgment with costs for Sheffield Wednesday.

Former lecturer found dead with axe wounds

From Our Correspondent

A former Oxford lecturer, Mr Stanley Hodge was found dead from axe wounds as his caravan home at Smugglers Leap, Minster, Isle of Thanet yesterday. The police sealed the caravan site after finding the body.

Mr Hodge, who was 65, retired from Westminster College, the Methodist teacher training college, a year ago. A woman was being interviewed by the police last night.

Retirement home: Mr Hodge was a lecturer in education at Westminster College for more than 15 years (our Oxford correspondent writes). He bought the caravan as his retirement home.

Mr Donald Crompton, the principal of the college, said Mr Hodge was much liked as a colleague. He held a senior position in a teacher training college in Cyprus for some years and had taught at Cairo University. He and his wife were divorced four years ago.

Skillful showing by British chess players

From a Chess Correspondent

The second round of the World Chess Championship in Birmingham yesterday was full of interesting and lively games. British players showed courage and skill and were not overawed by their opponents' reputation.

Soos, the German master, was well beaten by Lember, the young Midland open champion, and Martyn Cordell played well in beating Luginbuhl, of Switzerland.

The remaining games were adjourned, but Bernard Caffery has a winning advantage against Kagan, the Israeli master, and Botvinnik stands well against Gasic.

Basman, after exciting complications, came into and ending with two bishops against a rook and knight, but, although a pawn to the bad, is still fighting hard.

Results in round four: Soos (Germany) 0, Lember (Midland) 1, Martyn Cordell (Midland) 1, Botvinnik (USSR) 1, Gasic (Croatia) 0, Kagan (Israel) 0, Basman (USSR) 1, Caffery (England) 1, Luginbuhl (Switzerland) 0, Ponnas (Malaya) 0.

Admitted games, round one: Danny Williams (Sheffield Wednesday) 1, Leslie Allen (QPR) 0.

## Hotel code will let guests know tariff on arrival

By Patricia Tisdall

A code of practice to ensure that hotel guests know in advance exactly how much they will have to pay was announced in a Commons written reply yesterday by Mr Dell, Secretary of State for Trade.

The code, which has been drawn up in association with the British Hotels, Restaurants and Caterers Association, the regional tourist boards, the British Resorts Association and other interested bodies, will not apply to establishments with fewer than four guest bedrooms.

Where breakfast is not included in the total obligatory charge, the voluntary code advises that hotels should state whether it is available and, if so, the total minimum charge for Continental breakfast.

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Details of charges for such extras as covered garages or facilities for pets should be readily available.

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## New drug allegations by prisoners

By Peter Godfrey

Fresh allegations of prisoners being drugged to a medically questionable degree at Gartree maximum security prison, in Leicestershire, have reached The Times. In two cases inmates say they have been administered 10 times the normal dosage of tranquillizers.

The allegations, contained in four letters smuggled out of Gartree, corroborate earlier evidence published by The Times. One prisoner says: "I had to seek medical advice, and right from the start was prescribed drugs named Largactil and Triptafen, which I find after eight months is standard prescription for all cases, no matter what the complaint. While I have been taking the drugs I have found my memory has suffered greatly. At times I have literally felt completely disoriented and my whole character reduced. Coordination between mind and limbs has been non-existent."

"Each time I have complained that the drugs are having a mind-numbing effect on me nothing has been done, except the dosage has been raised. At one stage I was being fed 700mg to 800mg of the drug Largactil each day."

The normal dosage of Largactil, a tranquillizer, is 50-75mg a day. When used in conjunction with Triptafen, an anti-depressant, it can induce what one doctor called "a zombie-like effect."

The prisoner adds that during his three months spent "under observation" in Gartree prison hospital requests to end the treatment were to no avail. "Although I asked for no drugs I was pumped with the above-mentioned. At one time I was put into the padded cell for three days for complaining about the method by which I was being treated. It seems to

be standard procedure in the hospital to drug the mind completely to a state where one cannot think.

For the past few months on these drugs my condition got worse with long periods of deep depression and a fog-like unawareness of my surroundings. I am out of the hospital now, and am avoiding taking the drugs, but I feel I could no longer seek medical advice in this prison."

The same prisoner's condition is described in a letter from another Gartree inmate. He said: "His speech lacks any emphasis and is mainly incoherent. His face is dull and almost expressionless. He has developed a sort of 'stiffness' in his neck and shoulders."

Another prisoner reports receiving similar doses of tranquillizers. "I was put on 700mg of Largactil a day, 200 in the morning, 200 at dinner time, 200 at bedtime and at night time 100, also a bit of sodium amytal (a barbiturate). This was when I was in the prison hospital. I am now back on my wing, but on the understanding that if I missed any of my treatment I would be put back in that hospital."

A fourth letter portrays the repercussions of drug treatment on one of the writer's fellow inmates. "He was put on tranquillizers that were so powerful that on several occasions he collapsed shortly after taking them and had to be put to bed by staff. On one occasion he was so befuddled that while attempting to fill his tea jug with water from the boiler he scalded his hand badly. Despite all this he was not removed from drugs."

Commenting on the dosages of drugs allegedly administered at Gartree, the Home Office said: "Prisoners receive the same treatment they would receive from the National Health Service, and are generally free to refuse medication if they wish."

More home news, pages 14 & 19.

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PARLIAMENT, April 6, 1977

# Inner cities: £1,000m commitment over next decade: partnership scheme for action in worst areas

House of Commons

Mr Peter Shore, Secretary of State for the Environment, outlined in a statement a six-point plan for improving inner city areas. The urban programme, he said, was to be recast and this would involve increasing expenditure from under £50m to £125m a year in 1979-80. There would be a continuing commitment of around £1,000m over the next decade.

Mr Shore said: Since the autumn, my colleagues and I have been re-examining the problems that affect our major urban centres. In our work we have been able to draw upon the material prepared in a whole series of reports and at least the recently completed inner area studies carried out in Birmingham, Lambeth and Liverpool.

On the evidence before us, there can be little doubt that, while previous governments of both parties have tried to deal with the urban problems, the extent and the changed character of the inner city problems is only now becoming fully apparent.

During the postwar period policies have concentrated on encouraging the export of inner city population and on the comprehensive redevelopment to provide new homes. But too little attention has been paid to the community health and to the community interests of the inner areas.

Over the past decade, inner cities have suffered a massive and disproportionate loss of jobs and a major exodus of population. Substantial ethnic minorities in some areas have arrived, and the problems of poor housing—and in some areas congestion—have still to be overcome, but in many areas they have been joined by the new problems of high unemployment, decay and deterioration, unbalanced population structure with disproportionate numbers of the disadvantaged and the elderly, and an accompanying loss of internal morale and external confidence.

A new direction is now needed for our urban policies. We must check, and where possible halt, the decline of the inner areas. Extra money will be made available to provide the sole solution. We need to secure better use of existing resources to work positively in

favour of these areas. Above all, we have to shift the emphasis of Government policy and bring about changes in the attitude of local authorities, of industry and of institutions.

Our proposals are in summary as follows. First, we shall give a new priority in the main policies and programmes of Government so that they contribute to a better life in these inner areas. We have already moved strongly in this direction in housing through our area policy; in local government finance through the needs element of the rate support grant. An inner area dimension is needed in other main programmes. Similarly, local authorities, who must be the main agents for action, will be asked to give priority to inner areas and to give a new inner area emphasis to their policies and organisation.

Second, we need a more unified approach to urban problems. As the Prime Minister has announced today, responsibility for the urban programme will be transferred to my department and in Wales to the Secretary of State.

Third, our immediate priority must be to strengthen the economic base of inner areas. Subject only to priority for regional policy, suitable firms will be encouraged to establish themselves in the inner areas of underdeveloped cities. We shall introduce legislation to enhance the powers of local authorities with serious inner area problems to enable them to assist industry and to designate industrial improvement areas. We shall encourage local authorities to give more consideration to the needs of inner areas in their planning policies.

Fourth, our policies on population movement, national as well as local, must be reviewed and changed. An announcement about the new towns to the House yesterday, the Government have decided to make the urban programme to cover economic and environmental as well as social projects, and to increase it to £125m a year in 1979-80.

Fifth, the Government propose to offer special partnerships in the

authorities (both districts and counties) of certain cities. This will involve the joint preparation of inner area programmes in order to secure a coherent, cross-the-board approach. These grants will be paid and related to these new inner area programmes.

We propose in the light of the inner area studies to offer partnerships to Liverpool and Birmingham, to Manchester and Salford, who have severe and large-scale inner urban problems, and in London to Lambeth and the London Docklands authorities who are ready to start a major programme of urban renewal.

The Government will consider proposals for partnership from other authorities with major inner area problems. It will be necessary, however, to limit strictly the field of the best use to be made of extra resources.

Outside the partnership arrangements, authorities will be able to prepare inner area programmes, and the Government will consider linking urban grants to those programmes, though necessarily on a modest scale in early years. Work on a comprehensive community programme with Gateshead will continue.

We have already referred to the recasting of the urban programme. We intend to increase it from the £50m level of under £50m to £125m a year in 1979-80. I hope it will be possible to increase it further in later years. Our intention is that this will form a continuing commitment of around £1,000m over the next decade.

As launching day, the Chancellor has announced an extra sum for construction works in certain inner cities of which over £50m will be available in England to be spent over the next two years.

We shall work with major authorities, particularly in the partnership areas, about projects in inner areas which will form part of the scheme. These will include a start to be made in advance of the preparation of inner area programmes, which will inevitably take some time to prepare, and will, of course, cover current as well as capital expenditure.

The Government intend to lay a White Paper before Parliament as soon as possible, and to invite the House to debate the Government's proposals.

## Commuting by coach taking too long

Asked about commuter coach services, Mr John Horam, Under Secretary for Transport, said his understanding was that the Brighton Line Commuter Association was not doing well.

This was simply because it took far longer to get from Brighton to London by bus than by train, he said. Mr Horam said that the Brighton Line Commuter Association was not doing well.

We should not (he said) turn our back on any scheme which promises low cost travel to commuters who have been most hard hit by fare rises in the last two years.

Mr Horam—Experiments have been made on private initiatives. I understand the Brighton Line Commuter Association which was tried as one experiment is not doing well.

This is simply because it takes far longer to get from Brighton to London by bus than it does by train.

## Programme of urban aid

Mr James Callaghan, Prime Minister, said in a written reply: The urban programme has proved its worth as a valuable source of special funds to help inner cities living in urban areas of special social need. So long as the programme was innovative, responsive and cost-effective, it would be continued.

It is now to be greatly expanded and there will be room for measures going beyond the existing programme. I have therefore decided to transfer responsibility for the urban programme and associated work from the Home Secretary to the Secretary of State for the Environment in England and to the Secretary of State for Wales in Wales.

The Secretary will retain the central responsibility for the Government's race relations policy and for Section 11 of the Local Government Act 1972, which provides for grants to be made to local authorities which have within their areas substantial numbers of coloured immigrants.

The voluntary services unit will also remain in the Home Office. The interests of the ethnic minorities and the voluntary sector will be fully taken into account in the allocation of resources under the enlarged urban programme.

Tory councils: threats on bus subsidies

Some Conservative-controlled county councils are threatening not to pay over to bus companies the money they had received from the Government for bus revenue support, Mr John Horam, Under Secretary of State for Transport, said.

Mr Robert Hicks (Bodmin, C) had asked when definite proposals would be made to the Government to improve bus services in rural areas.

Mr Horam (Gateshead, West, Lab) said the subject had been included in the forthcoming White Paper on transport policy. But meanwhile the Government have accepted 50 per cent of the total bus subsidy for this year and is encouraging new initiatives where it can.

Local action on rural transport is even more overdue in the light of last week's increase in petrol prices. Basic mobility is essential to the livelihood of country areas. It is now time that the Government acted quickly.

Mr Horam—He is wrong. We have a Bill going through the House to encourage experiments in rural areas. We have also asked anything that comes up to us that they have received from the Government. This is extremely dangerous. They are damaging the finances of counties, like the National Bus Company, and are endangering those things like community bus services. North Cornwall failed to pay over £250,000 which it received for bus revenue support.

Consultative defeat

During questions after Mr Michael Foot, Lord President of the Council, had announced the business for the first week after the Easter recess.

Mr Edward Taylor, Opposition spokesman on Scotland (Glasgow, Lab), said: In view of the Government's attitude towards the Government last night could Mr Foot give an assurance that the Secretary of State for Scotland (Mr Bruce Watson) will withdraw his outrageous proposals regarding Scottish teacher training or, if he is not willing to budge, announce his resignation?

Mr Foot—What Mr Watson did was to issue a consultative document. What happened yesterday was part of the consultation. (Loud laughter.)

## Dual carriageway speed limit to be raised to 70

From the beginning of June the national speed limit on dual carriageway roads will be raised to 70 mph, Mr William Rodgers, Secretary of State for Transport, announced. On single carriageway roads the limit will be raised from 50 to 60 mph. Where safety considerations require it, lower limits will be indicated in the usual way.

Mr Nicholas Budge (Wolverhampton, South-West, C)—There will be widespread public relief that he has at last taken notice of the view of the vast majority of road users.

It is the beginning of a review by the Government of all Acts on the statute book with a view to eliminating those which are unnecessary, unenforceable and interfering.

Mr Rodgers—I appreciate his opening remarks, although perhaps he put them in a way I would not have chosen. (Laughter.) These are serious and difficult matters which the House has discussed many times. The Government have considered the circumstances in which in 1974 the lower speed limits were imposed. When I first became aware of them I thought they were right, but consideration indicated that it was time for a change and

we have responded. I would draw no larger conclusion, as he chooses to do.

Mr Duffield Wigley (Caerwyn, Pl Cymru)—There is a need to encourage local authorities and police forces to review 30 mph restrictions which often were imposed about 40 to 50 years ago, when the condition of built-up areas was different.

Mr Rodgers—I appreciate what he says. Existing limits must be looked at frequently to adapt to changing circumstances and allow for public opinion.

Mr Gordon Bagley (Sunderland, South, Lab)—Has any estimate been made on the cost of signposting?

Mr Rodgers—The only signposting will be where there is a variation downwards for safety and other reasons. It would be expensive and time-consuming to signpost all the upper limits.

Mr Nicholas Budge, Opposition spokesman on transport (Sutton Coldfield, C)—This is a victory for those who have pressed for change. One major reason we have pressed in the last year for change was the confusion caused to motorists by having three limits at the same

time, 50, 60 and 70 miles an hour. We welcome the reductions which will help motorists, but we regret the decision was not taken earlier.

Mr Rodgers—I do not think the changes should be regarded as more than a victory for common sense in the light of changed circumstances.

Mr David Penhaglion (Truro, I.)—Will he encourage police not to prosecute between now and June 1 when the new speeds come into effect? There could be no greater insanity.

Mr Rodgers—It would be presumptuous of me to give advice like that to the police. Where the law exists it is important that it should be enforced but, more important, respected.

Mr Neil Martin (Banbury, C)—What about the possibility of the 80 mph limit on motorways? Why must we wait until June 1?

Mr Rodgers—An 80 mph limit has not been adopted. On the other point, there is a lot of work to be done. It is also important that the changes should be aware of it.

Mr Robin Cook (Edinburgh, Central, Lab)—It has been suggested that most motorists will come to the proposed new limits, driving over 50 mph, consuming more petrol and costs more. This puts these people in an odd light when they make a victory over increased petrol prices in the Budget. Will he reject this outcry?

Mr Rodgers—The outcry was nonsense. But it is a choice for the individual. If you drive at over 50 mph in a steady car you consume more petrol and pay more. I hope those who wish to save will stay below the new limits.

Mr John Ellis (Brigg and Scunthorpe, Lab)—One of the important contributory factors to road accidents is speed. Directly because of this announcement more people will be killed and injured on our roads. Though we are all guilty of having a schizophrenic approach to this it is a good MP who has the public favouring safety. We must strike a balance between this approach to speed, the

Mr Rodgers—That is fair. I am this of myself. We do suffer from schizophrenia here. We all want a safe life but we all like driving fast. We must strike a balance of it is in some ways a dangerous balance. But that is life.

## Minister outlines plans to control rowdy football supporters

Mr Denis Howell, Minister for Sport and Recreation (Birmingham, Lab), said in a written reply: The White Paper on sport and recreation, said that he had told the House that he would be taking particular steps to get on with the development of regional strategies and to look 20 years ahead. He had taken the lead in the preparation of guidelines and work on the development of regional strategies.

The White Paper recognized that the first priority for future recreational provision must be to concentrate on the needs of the young and other areas of social stress. The Sports Council had accepted this and 1975-77 had allocated £200,000 in grants to help towards schemes in those areas.

They intended to make similar provision in future years.

The second was that as soon as is practicable, having regard to the fact that arrangements are already being made for the FA Cup semi-final, the Football Association and Football League will ensure that all future Manchester United away matches will be ticket-only occasions.

Under no circumstances will any tickets be available on the day of the match and all ticket sales will be sold exclusively to home club supporters. It is clear that seat tickets are concerned, it will be for the home club to decide what allocation it can make available to its supporters. Manchester United Football Club, which has been a recent games had been the large Manchester United supporters who had arrived for all-ticket matches without being in possession of a ticket. In Southampton more than 2,000 people were turned away from the ground last Saturday at Norwich several hundred arrived without a ticket for the match.

It was due to the impression which these people had that they would easily be able to obtain a ticket from clubs or people selling tickets outside the ground.

He had discussed this matter with the Home Secretary and he would consider where practical measures could be taken to end this situation.

It will obviously defeat our purpose (he said) if people feel that they can get round the arrangements by purchasing tickets in this manner and gaining admission to parts of the terraces where they are not permitted to go.

The FA and the league had agreed that Manchester United supporters would be discouraged from recognition of a wide range of supporters' clubs "around the country and would be instructed not to make tickets available to such clubs outside Manchester."

Likewise, other clubs who were also developing such out-of-town supporters' clubs would be asked to discontinue such arrangements from giving official recognition to them.

We are aware that certain matches involving the supporters of one club also need to be seriously controlled and during the summer months the working party will consider what other measures require equally stringent control and similar all-ticket arrangements.

The Secretary of State for Transport (Mr Rodgers) shares his view on the role which properly supervised travel arrangements could play.

First working party and I (he went on) hope soon to hold a meeting with the representatives of such operations and British Rail in order to discuss all the arrangements. We shall stress the view of the working party that it will be quite irresponsible to organize any kind of all-ticket arrangements unless the travellers possess a ticket of admission to the match.

We will also make clear our firm view that there should be no alcohol on board coaches or trains carrying supporters. Police reports on recent incidents confirm that similar numbers of supporters have been arriving at the home town as early as midnight on the day before the match and thus creating a number of problems.

We shall therefore reinforce the earlier advice of the working party, which is designed to ensure that supporters of football matches do not arrive in the home town earlier than an hour or so before the kick-off and that arrangements for their transport are made in advance.

Mr Rodgers—The working party, including representatives of the Football Association, Football League, and the Sports Council, discussed this matter with him yesterday, and all agreed that, so far as possible, all supporters of Manchester United are concerned, this problem had to be reduced immediately to one of management and not one of restriction. The club itself, their opponents, and the towns in which games were being played.

Mr Rodgers—The Manchester United Supporters' Club now listed more than 150 branches throughout the country. He had a very brief outline of the scope of the

view that supporters for offensive behaviour should be treated as a deterrent. The Home Secretary had proposed a considerable increase in such penalties in the Criminal Law Bill which MPs were due to consider immediately after Easter. He hoped that they would give it a swift passage so that its provisions could be brought into force as soon as possible.

Members of the working party were convinced that, in preference to the imposition of large fines, courts should deal with football hooligans in the younger age range, under 17, by ordering them to report to an attendance centre or to a probation officer.

The working party felt that there must be effective means of segregating rival supporters on the terraces and in the stands. In this respect the number of tickets which the home team could make available to the visitors in any match should be based on the ability to control separate sections with their own entrances and exits. The second was that some form of protection was available to ensure that there was no overcrowding on the pitch except for reasons of safety and at the discretion of the police.

Many of the remedial measures to be taken would involve imposing restrictions upon many thousands of genuine football supporters, particularly in Manchester. This was especially regrettable because of the fine reputation of the Manchester United club for positive football which contributes greatly to the status of the club and the respectability of its supporters.

However (he continued) I know that most of their supporters will understand how important it is to the long-term interest of their own club and for their supporters' personality that we eliminate these disorders and make the support of our national sport the pleasure that it ought to be.

Mr Hector Monro, Opposition spokesman on sport (Dumfries, C) said that in more enlightened times they must look at the possibility of revising the tax position so that corporations and companies were positively encouraged to support sport and recreation.

There was concern about the shortage of money available to pay police overtime in relation to this sort of work, and the need to help the police. They must change the law.

Mr Eldon Griffiths (Bury St Edmunds, C) said that what had been happening on the football terraces was a disgrace to the sporting ideal. The first responsibility had to be with the clubs. If there was persistent animal-like behaviour on the part of supporters for the police to be given power to close grounds for a period.

Parents had some responsibility. Where a child was seen to be involved in violence, magistrates should impose an obligation on the parents to pay severe fines and accept responsibility for the conduct of their children when they were away from home.

Mr John Forrester (Stoke on Trent, North, Lab), who said he and two shares in Stoke City F.C.—(Crisis of Capitalism)—said the softly, softly approach to football hooliganism adopted up to now was not one which would pay dividends. He said that the law was much tougher penalties. He was strongly in favour of terms of detention for offenders.

Three months in an Army type glasshouse (he said) would do some of these people a whole lot of good.

Mr Walter Johnson (Derby South, Lab) said every other week when Derby County were playing at home people had to barricade their doors and windows and keep the young and unruly football supporters out of the danger from supporters of visiting clubs and the home team.

Magistrates should take a realistic view. Fines were no good. The Minister of Defence might consider sending up trouble-makers to the Army where young thugs could have three or four months of some form of discipline. They lacked at home and in school.

The motion to take note of the White Paper was carried by 34 votes to seven—Government majority.

House adjourned, 10.42 pm.

## Mr Foot's advice on Lab-Lib pact

Mr John Biffen (Oswestry, C), in a written reply, said: In the Easter adjournment, said the arrangements concluded between the Government and the Liberal Party were unsatisfactory because the House was unable to question the proceedings of the committee.

He had no wish to pull aside the curtain and be a sort of peeping Tom and to look at all these arrangements.

The Liberal Party, apart from being absentees at the time, were not present. They had not been invited to a fashion show to make any possible link with a Peeping Tom who had been in the room.

But the proprieties of the House required that MPs should know what were the formal representations being made to the Government, and what the Government's reaction to those representations.

Mr Ian Gow (Eastbourne, C) said the House should not adjourn without a statement from Mr Foot on the consultative committee with the Liberal Party.

Mr Nicholas Ridley (Cirencester and Tewkesbury, C) said that Mr Foot reminded him more of a Hindu deity than a politician. He said that the only difference was that in Hindu religion the deity was worshipped by the Indian population but that the Liberal-Liberal pact was not worshipped.

Mr Francis Pym, Opposition spokesman on House of Commons Affairs (Barnstaple, C) said: Mr Foot has said that the pact was a bad idea. He had lost a series of elections, the Government had lost a series of by-elections and they lost the main Bill in their last session.

Mr Foot was only on the Government front bench by virtue of adopting an artificial position which seemed to be a compromise of a nature. He depended upon a vote of the Liberal Party in order to be able to serve on the Government front bench.

Mr Foot, Lord President of the Council (Bury St Edmunds, C) said the Government's decision was the Liberal Party had given rise to a number of questions among Conservative MPs.

The Opposition, if they were to suppress their curiosity on the matter and their determination to state their views, would have more they did so, the more it seemed to indicate that it was wise and reasonable arrangements that the Government made.

They did not like it because it did not have defeated votes of confidence, in particular the situation was that they were not in a position to vote of confidence and had not been able to vote of confidence.

It should not have been a matter in the House.

If they kept quiet on this and did not press any question there might be more satisfaction in other quarters.

Arrangements of this kind had been made at previous times. History. They were not matters which any ministerial responsibility should be concerned in the fact which MPs had so far put the questions.

Conservative MPs should not for any ways to put questions which would have been eliciting information on the matter.

The motion was agreed to.

Pre-release hostels

Mrs Jill Knight (Birmingham, C) said: I was given leave to introduce a Bill which, she sought to tighten the selection criteria for pre-release hostels and to make the hostels more secure.

Parliamentary notices

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After recess until Tuesday, April 11.

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WEST EUROPE

# Threat of new conflict between French Government and unions as thousands lose jobs

From Charles Hargrove

Paris, April 6.—Tension is building up again between the unions and the Government after the lull of the French municipal elections, which was deliberately prolonged by the unions in order not to prejudice the chances of the left at the polls.

The two leading labour organizations, the CGT and the FO, yesterday threatened a "major offensive" shortly in the nationalized and public sectors, where wage negotiations are largely derelict.

The determination of M. Barre, the Prime Minister, to limit pay increases strictly in line with the rate of inflation, does not make any compromise likely.

Unemployment has been intensified by the acute difficulties of some branches of industry, especially steel, and the threat of increased unemployment. Unions, the big steel combine, has just announced 3,720 redundancies, 3,000 of them at its Thionville plant in Moselle.

This would leave only 800 men on the site. The management maintains it cannot go back on the decision. The plant has been losing money heavily, and a major cause has been the depression in European shipbuilding.

Another 8,000 workers are expected to be out of jobs next week when the other big steel firm in Lorraine, Sacilor-Sollac, which has been in financial trouble since 1971, announces a heavy cutback in production.

The industry is also facing a further blow in the reorganization decided on by the Government, which will mean the loss of a further 20,000 jobs by 1980.

But it is the redundancies at Usinor, which everyone thought to be thriving, which has caused the big shock. Only last June, the firm announced it would build a new steel plant at Thionville, financed by 120m francs (14m) of state aid. The plant would have almost doubled production. Thionville and the new technique of continuous casting would have

made it competitive, according to the firm's middle management.

The threat to the traditional livelihood of Lorraine, which this cutback involves, has caused a wave of indignation and an unusual demonstration of solidarity by parties on both sides of the political fence. Mass demonstrations took place at Thionville yesterday, in which Gaullists and Independent Republicans found themselves in the streets with Socialists, Communists and left-wing trade union organizations, with the newly elected Communist mayor at their head.

The Moselle branch of the Communist Party has proclaimed that "not one screw or bolt must be removed from the plant, even if it means occupying the works. The Independent Republicans condemned the management's decision, "taken without any consultation with the population". It called on the Government to "oppose the closure of the plant, and exercise control over the whole steel industry".

## Marquand post in Brussels approved

From Our Own Correspondent

Brussels, April 6.—The European Commission today approved the appointment of Mr David Marquand, the former Labour MP for Ashfield, as chief liaison officer between the Commission and other EEC institutions.

The post within the Commission's Secretariat-General in Brussels was created last week to improve—such liaison before direct elections to the European Parliament.

Mr Marquand, who resigned as MP for Ashford yesterday, will also have the task of acting as liaison officer to the Community's economic and Social Committee, which groups employers, trade unions and other special interests, as well as to the so-called Social Partners' Bureau, which was a similar membership.

Mr Marquand said today that he was delighted that he could now start full-time work in Brussels. Since the arrival of Mr Roy Jenkins as President of the European Commission at the beginning of the year, he has been commuting between Westminster and Brussels on a temporary basis.

## Painter supercedes

Racine on banknote

Paris, April 6.—The Bank of France has issued a new 50-franc banknote (the new 50-franc note, bearing the portrait of Marianne, Queen of the Tuileries, the eighteenth century painter,

OVERSEAS

# Kissinger call for a revision of Soviet block debts to West

Continued from page 1

in power, so "those in Government should not claim that history starts anew with each change of office".

Referring to Selt, he expressed support for Mr Carter's overall goal of reducing the Soviet and American nuclear arsenals. But he seemed unhappy with the way things went last year in Moscow and came close in this formulation to agreeing with the Russians that Mr Carter had set aside the Vladivostok agreement between Mr Brezhnev and Mr Ford.

"Whether reductions should be sought in one major step or several, whether the result of negotiations conducted over a period of years by the top leaders of both countries should be set aside or built upon, are matters of tactical judgment", he said.

Dr Kissinger covered much familiar ground and, understandably, after so short a time in the wilderness had little new to say.

He upbraided the Western allies, as was his wont, for failing to pay greater attention to conventional defences. Typically, he urged a joint examination of and new conditions for the vast trade debt the Soviet Union and Soviet block countries had been allowed to build up with the West.

"It makes no sense to permit the nations of the East to expand their debts to the industrial democracies with no regard for anything but ad hoc commercial considerations," he said, suggesting that trade policies be examined from the "perspective of their contribution to world order."

In his view the gravest problem before the industrial democracies was "how do we inspire a new generation with a sense of purpose?" He also wondered: "How do we mobilize faith without turning to demagoguery and how do we foster domestic unity without fostering totalitarianism?"

At the end of his lecture he came back to the central issue of American-Soviet relations. His prescription remained what it had been, and which he blames Congress for frustrating:

"First, make clear by our strength and determination that attempts to spread Soviet influence by military means and other forms of adventurism will be resisted. Second, to moderate Soviet conduct by engaging the Soviet Union in constructive participation in the international system."

Regardless whether the West succeeded or not in this endeavour, Dr Kissinger chose to dispel the notion that he was a Spenglerian pessimist. He suggested that West Europe had met its dire tests before, and took the late fourteenth century example.

He said there was, then, a sense of imminent disaster, of being prey to the East, and Italy a prey to anarchy and dismemberment. And yet along came the Renaissance. So today the industrial democracies "possess the assets to meet their challenges."

## Little hope for success at Cyprus negotiations

From Our Own Correspondent

Vienna, April 6.—Greek community negotiators at the Cyprus talks here tabled proposals today for a strong central government to rule the island but Turkish Cypriots immediately labelled the proposals unacceptable.

The Greek Cypriot move came on the second to last day of the talks, which seemed certain to end without bringing the two sides closer on the main issues despite a week of discussion under the auspices of top United Nations officials.

Last week, the Greek Cypriots rejected a Turkish proposal for a loose federal administration, saying that it would leave the central government too weak.

Mr Tassos Papadopoulos, the Greek Cypriot negotiator, said the plan he presented today would not affect the existence of a Turkish region in a federal framework.

Guidelines worked out in February between President Makarios, the Greek Cypriot leader, and Mr Rauf Denkash, the Turkish community leader, called for the establishment of a bi-communal federal state.

Andreas Christofides, the Greek Cypriot spokesman, said the proposals provided for a president to be elected by universal suffrage and a council of ministers whose membership would be in accordance with the population ratio.

Greek Cypriots outnumber Turkish Cypriots by some four to one; and the Turkish side has called for a government on the basis of "equality".

## Terror case Briton on hunger strike

From Our Own Correspondent

Stockholm, April 6.—Alan Hunter, an Englishman arrested here last Friday in a security police raid on the flat of an alleged terrorist group, is on the third day of a hunger strike in protest against his detention.

Swedish security police have asked Mr Hunter, formerly of Amsterdam, Buckinghamshire,

should be deported but a Government decision on this is not likely before next week, according to a Government source.

Mr Hunter, aged 23, who began his hunger strike on Sunday night, faces criminal charges as well as deportation proceedings. Mr Tomas Wellton,

his Swedish lawyer, said today.

Swedish police arrested Mr Hunter when they seized two West Germans, two Mexicans and a Chilean woman suspected of plotting to kidnap a former Swedish Government minister. The two Germans have been deported to West Germany.—Reuter.

## Spain speeds up release of political prisoners

From Our Own Correspondent

Madrid, April 6.—Groups of Basques are planning to arrive in Madrid tomorrow to demonstrate outside Carabanchel prison in favour of a total amnesty. At the same time the Government appears to be speeding up its release of political prisoners, mainly Basques, with a view to settling many of them as possible by Easter Sunday, the Basque national day.

Señor Rodolfo Martín Villa, the Interior Minister, was due to meet a delegation of Basque politicians in Madrid today to discuss plans for the Aberti Eguna, the Basque Day, when tens of thousands of Basques intend to meet in Vitoria.

Coches will leave San Sebastián tomorrow morning for Madrid and will then go on to Burgos Friday to demonstrate outside the prison there. The authorities are reported to be confident that not too many people will arrive in Madrid in view of the Easter holidays.

According to the latest figures issued by the Justice Ministry, 39 political prisoners have been released, among them 46 Basques. Another 92 prisoners will benefit from the amnesty, the Ministry said.

Assuming that this total of 131 are all set free, then few political prisoners will remain in Spain. The Government is

going farther than people thought when the amnesty was announced in March in releasing those imprisoned for politically motivated crimes of violence.

Among the Basques to benefit from the amnesty were six people sentenced to long prison terms for kidnapping an industrialist in 1973. One of those released last night, Manuel Irujo Irujo, escaped from Segovia prison last year and was caught near the French frontier after a gun battle with police in which he was wounded and had to have his arm amputated.

Señor Julio Juarregui, the Basque representative in the opposition's negotiating committee, said after yesterday's meeting that he was generally pleased with the way the authorities were releasing prisoners.

After a full, right-wing extremists have started attacking bookshops again. A shop in Toledo was attacked early today and in Hueva in the south a shop suffered its second attack and was set on fire.

The headquarters of the Spanish Workers Socialist Party in Valencia were also attacked and 2800 taken from a cash box. The National Anti-Red Army said it would soon launch attacks in Madrid.

## EEC asks for extra cash to finance food subsidies

From Our Own Correspondent

Brussels, April 6.—Governments of the Nine are being asked to approve supplementary Community spending totalling some 530m units of account (about £220m) this year mainly to finance food subsidies for Britain. This would be in addition to the 1,800m units of account (about £750m) in funds already approved for the 1977 budget.

Announcing this in Brussels today, the European Commission said that an extra 339m units of account had to be found to pay for an increase in agricultural expenses in the wake of a sharp fall in the value of certain EEC currencies.

The main beneficiary is Britain which is now receiving about 1m a day in agricultural import subsidies. A further 832m units of account will be required to pay for special rises in EEC farm prices this year and changes in world market prices.

But the Commission said that its present estimate of an extra 383m units for the spring review is entirely dependent on member governments agreeing to its original proposals for a modest increase in agricultural prices. The final compromise package almost adopted by farm ministers of the Nine last week, and due to be discussed again in Luxembourg later this month, would cost considerably more.

Other supplementary expenditure originates from higher wages for Commission staff and refunds to the exchequers of member states.

Not all of the supplementary budget will have to be footed by EEC member governments, however. The Commission estimates that nearly half of the extra money can be financed by windfall customs duties and agricultural levies, as well as by increased Community taxes paid by Commission staff. This will leave national exchequers to contribute an extra 278m units of account.

## Community pays £16m to line developing nations

From Our Own Correspondent

Brussels, April 6.—The European Commission today announced payments totalling more than 24m units of account (about £16m) to compensate nine developing countries, including five non-Commonwealth members, for loss of earnings on their exports of raw materials to the EC last year.

The payments will come from the so-called Stabex fund, set up as part of the Lome convention between the Community and 52 former colonies in Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific (ACP countries). The fund is designed to subsidize the export earnings of ACP countries by compensating them for loss of export earnings on 12 key commodities like coffee, cotton and iron ore.

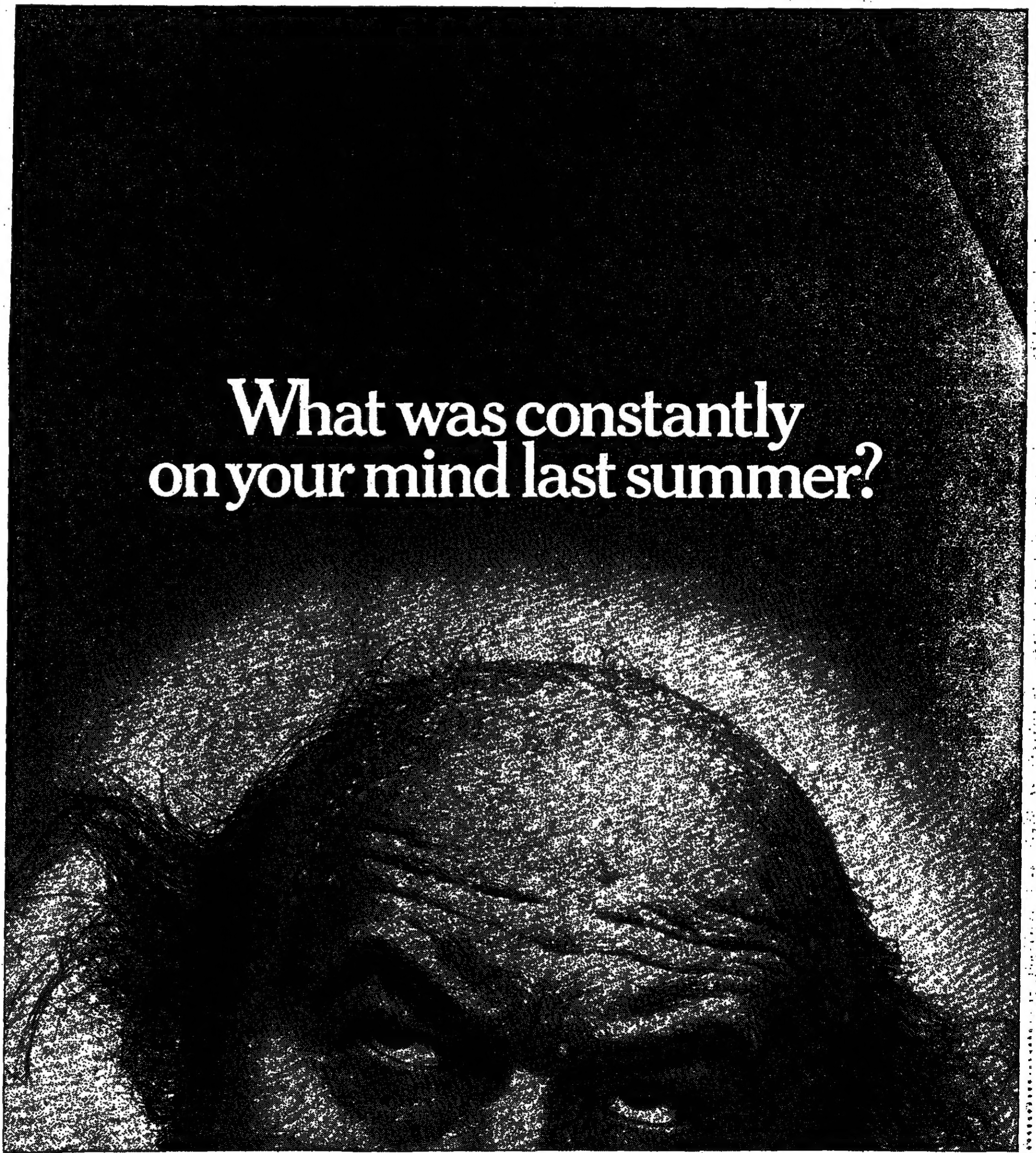
According to the commission, 77 per cent of the latest payments will be in the form of outright grants to the poorest ACP countries and the remainder will be interest-free loans.

The main beneficiaries are Niger, to compensate for export losses on groundnut oil and groundnut cakes, Tanzania for sisal, Sierra Leone for iron ore, and Benin for cotton and palm oil. Smaller payments will go to Madagascar for sisal, Fiji for copra oil, the Central African Empire for sawn wood and Western Samoa and Tonga for copra.

Today's payments represent the first allocation out of last year's Stabex fund, which has up to 75 million units of account available to meet expected claims.

The timing of today's announcement is hardly coincidental. Ministers from the EEC and the 52 ACP countries are due to meet in Fiji next week to take stock of the workings of the Lome convention, and the Commission doubts less hopes that the first allocation of last year's Stabex fund will help to provide a favourable climate for the deliberations.

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OVERSEAS

# Mr Sadat sets out plans for Middle East peace and creation of a Palestinian state

From Patrick Brogan  
Washington, April 6  
President Sadat of Egypt ended his visit to Washington by giving journalists a quick sketch of the steps he thinks should lead to peace in the Middle East this year. He thinks there is no time to be lost and that the United States should put pressure on Israel to allow the Palestinians to send a delegation to the Geneva conference.

The peace treaty which would be agreed there would set up a Palestinian state on the West Bank and in the Gaza Strip, linked by a corridor, he said. This state would have a "specific relationship" with Jordan. There could be no question of allowing Israel to set up defence lines beyond its final borders, but there might be demilitarized zones on both sides.

Mr Sadat was not asked about frontiers, but said that "no one can yield a part of his country."

After the signing of a treaty, which would mark the end of

the state of belligerency, normalization of relations between Israel and Egypt could follow.

Mr Sadat praised President Carter for his constructive and moral approach to the Middle East question, but said that they did not agree on everything. He added that this was not surprising.

President Sadat was asked by an Israeli journalist whether Egypt and Israel could not allow an exchange of journalists. He replied: "Part of the Arab-Israeli conflict is a psychological one. I have no objection for my part, but Israel must be ready for this after 29 years and four wars. You must take it gradually. Whenever we accept the end of the state of belligerency, all this will follow."

He was then asked whether he meant full normalization, including trade relations. He asked why Israel would wish to trade with Egypt, when they are in an economic mess, like me."

He was disturbed at Cuban interference in Africa. He said that he did not want to awake

one morning and find the Cubans leading an invasion of Sudan from Ethiopia, as they are leading the Katanga invasion of Zaire from Angola, according to reports which Mr Sadat appears to believe.

Asked about the possibility of American arms sales to Egypt, Mr Sadat replied that he had not made any official request for arms, but that the matter would be discussed further.

# Palestinians soften up opposition in Lebanon

Beirut, April 6.—Palestinian and leftist guerrillas today pounded the strategic town of Marjayoun, near the Israeli border, in apparent preparation for a big Syrian-sanctioned offensive on right-wing positions in Lebanon's sensitive south.

Fighters in the area said that leftist-Palestinian troops had been joined by the Syrian-controlled Saiga Palestinian organization in shattering heavy calibre shells and rockets on Marjayoun, the most important rightist stronghold in south Lebanon.

Over the past few days, Saiga had also been involved in ground fighting and hit-and-run attacks in joint operations with Al Fatah, the biggest Palestinian guerrilla group, they added.

Observers here said Saiga's backing of other Palestinian guerrilla groups fighting for control of villages along the border with Israel signalled a significant change in Syria's attitude towards part of the Lebanese right.

# Mr Carter signs the Reorganization Act

# President given authority to clear up the 'bureaucratic mess'

From Fred Emery  
Washington, April 6  
President Carter today signed into law the Reorganization Act, which gives him authority to propose drastic reorganization of government agencies. The proposal will go into effect 60 days later unless rejected by either house of Congress.

As the President noted at the crowded Oval Office ceremony, ralling at the "horrible bureaucratic mess" in Washington and promising a revamping of the government, the Reorganization Act was one of the most important pieces of legislation he signed today. The first reorganization proposal, suitably, concerns the Executive Office of the President. A proposal is due to be submitted to Congress by June.

Others are promised to follow rapidly, with the whole proposal process completed in two years, according to Mr Bert Lance, Director of the Office of Management and Budget, who is to run the reorganization programme.

In briefing reporters, Mr Lance disclosed that his men had already "identified" perhaps for the first time "the true total of all federal government bodies. It was 2,019—more than those listed in the 'incomplete' official Government Manual and more than the 1,900 Mr Carter continually promised to reduce to about 200. The discovered increase, Mr Lance suggested, meant that Mr Carter might end up with a few more than he promised."

The point, however, Mr Lance insisted, is to get more efficient and "responsive" delivery of government services to the citizens, and "to fix accountability and responsibility" of those doing the delivery.

How much would it save? Mr Lance, a successful country town banker before moving to the White House, did not wish to say. Reorganized services might end up costing more than they cost at present, yet much less than they would have cost left unorganized, he suggested. However, at congressional insistence (and against Mr Carter's wishes), the Act requires that each presidential proposal shall "estimate any reduction or increase in expenditures."

# Dr Castro attacks human rights 'hypocrisy'

Moscow, April 6.—Dr Fidel Castro, the Cuban leader, belittled the Kremlin today the light of his own talks in a parallel visit by President Podgorsky to Tanzania, Zambian Mozambique and Somalia.

Dr Castro last night accused the West of hypocrisy in criticizing the human rights record of communist countries while ignoring the human rights of Africans.

"Those of us who have visited Africa and have seen the traces of colonialism, capitalism, imperialism and racism well understand what human rights the imperialists are defending," said Dr Castro at a dinner given in his honour.

"During our visit to Africa we have seen how utterly discredited and bankrupt is bourgeois ideology."

Mr Castro, in his speech, also mentioned the case of Cuban officers led on a mission of the Zairean province of Shaba.—Feuter.

# Chad executes nine after palace battle

Ndjamena, April 6.—Seven soldiers and two civilians, the alleged ringleaders of an abortive coup in Chad on April 1, were executed today by firing squad, the ruling higher military council announced.

The statement, broadcast on Chad radio, said that an inquiry into the events of last Friday, when a battle raged briefly around the presidential palace, had "established in an irrefutable manner that the responsibility was with the people who have been executed."

This was the second execution in Chad in two days. On Monday four members of a Chad rebel group were executed for their part in an assassination attempt against General Felix Malloum.

# Trudeau warning on language plan

From Our Correspondent  
Ottawa, April 6  
Mr Trudeau, the Canadian Prime Minister, promised last night that the federal government would fight the notion that in order for the Quebec Government to promote the French language it must take away the historic rights of the province's English minority.

He told a press conference that the kind of independence the separatist government of Quebec was fostering was "rather going back to the dark ages."

He was reacting to a highly controversial White Paper published by the Parti Québécois Government in the province last Friday outlining a plan to give absolute primacy to the French language and officially end bilingualism in Quebec.

Because the White Paper still has to be turned into legislation, Mr Trudeau avoided saying exactly what the federal government intended to do about it.

The federal government has the power to disallow provincial legislation. It can also reserve its application while seeking a court ruling as to whether it contravenes the Canadian constitution or the Official Languages Act, which makes both English and French official languages of Canada.

Ottawa, April 6.—Mr Pierre

Trudeau, the Canadian Prime Minister, says he will spend an Easter holiday in the United States while his controversial wife stays at home and minds their three children.

Mr Trudeau, who is 57, was closely questioned about his private life by reporters at a press conference yesterday. He reacted coolly and said he had no quarrel over their concern over his relationship with his wife, Margaret, aged 28. "But I think my marital status is my own business, and the business of my wife, thank you very much," he said.

Mrs Trudeau recently turned up in Toronto and New York at the same time as the British rock group the Rolling Stones, she was quoted as saying she planned to abdicate her role as wife of the Prime Minister.

She has since taken on a photographic assignment for a New York magazine and there have been allegations that she travelled for the publication on an official pass issued by Air Canada.

Mr Trudeau told the press conference he did not know if his wife had used the pass and added that it was up to the state-owned airline to apply its own rules. "I am not going to do their accounting for them," he said.

The Prime Minister's office said last week that Mr Trudeau would pay the airline for any private trips taken by his wife on the pass. She is believed to be in New York at present.

Mr Trudeau said he would go to the University of California at Berkeley on Thursday to make a speech and receive an honorary degree. He then would go skiing.

At the same time his wife "will be staying with the children, to relieve the hard-worked maids who have to spend their time with the children at the taxpayer's expense."

Mr Trudeau showed irritation only once, when a journalist asked if he considered it proper to have the taxpayers provide maids for the three young boys when his wife no longer accepted public duties.

The Prime Minister did not give a direct answer but said the staff of 10 at his residence had not been increased since he was a bachelor six years ago. The journalist said he was asking about nannies.

"Don't call them nannies," Mr Trudeau replied angrily. "Call them maids. I have had Prime Ministers. They are not nannies. They haven't been hired in England."—Reuter.

# Pretender to Albanian throne is freed

Bangkok, April 6.—The Pretender to the Albanian throne, Mr Mehmet Shkuparrevi Lekaj, was released from a Thai jail last night after being detained for five days on charges of possessing illegal weapons.

The spokesman said the Pretender, who is 39, and is the son of the late King Zog of Albania, was freed at the request of police investigators. Informers said his release followed acceptance by the Thai Government of his claim to diplomatic immunity.

# Bonn protests over secret Israeli arrests

Bonn, April 6.—Israel repeatedly denied to West Germany that it was holding two of its citizens on terrorist charges, the Bonn Foreign Ministry said today. But all the time Brigitte Schultze, aged 25, and Thomas Reuter, aged 24, were being held incommunicado, Herr Klaus Terloth, a ministry spokesman, told a news conference.

He said Israeli officials waited until March 14—15 months after the arrests—to inform the West German embassy in Tel Aviv.

Three days later Herr Hans Dietrich Genscher, the Foreign

Minister, personally protested to his Israeli counterpart, Mr Yigal Allon, that "Tel Aviv gave false information" about the case.

"I do not know what Mr Allon replied," Herr Terloth said. "I cannot answer for the Israeli government."

Israel announced last week that the two Germans and three unidentified Palestinians were seized in January last year near an airport where they allegedly planned to shoot down an El Al airliner. They were transferred to Israel several days later to stand trial.

Israeli officials declined to

identify the airport, but an official source in Tel Aviv said the rocket attack was planned at Nairobi, against an airline carrying more than 10 passengers.

The Kenyan Government reportedly helped Israeli agents to arrest the plotters, but Nairobi officials have refused comment on the case.

Herr Terloth said Frankfurt School authorities were alerted at some stage by the Israeli embassy in Bonn that the daughter was being held, by they kept the news confidential, apparently on instruction from the Israelis.—AP.

# The Antarctic is getting colder

Washington, April 6.—The Antarctic is getting colder, the American National Science Foundation reports. Last year the average temperature at the South Pole was -50°C (-58°F), the previous low of -49°C (-55°F), was recorded in 1959 and 1964.

# Law Society Part I qualifying examination

In the Law Society's Part I Qualifying Examination held on February 2, 3 and 4, the following candidates were successful in the heads shown. (An asterisk indicates a distinction.)

The heads of examination are: 1, constitutional and administrative law and English legal system; 2, contract; 3, torts; 4, criminal law; 5, land law.

Passed (wholly or in part):

**BIRMINGHAM**  
A. G. Adams, 12345; B. C. Brown, 12345; C. D. Green, 12345; D. E. White, 12345; F. G. Black, 12345; H. I. Jones, 12345; J. K. Smith, 12345; L. M. Taylor, 12345; N. O. Wilson, 12345; P. Q. Evans, 12345; R. S. Phillips, 12345; T. U. Turner, 12345; V. W. Walker, 12345; X. Y. Young, 12345; Z. A. Allen, 12345.

**LONDON**  
A. B. Baker, 12345; C. D. Green, 12345; E. F. Hall, 12345; G. H. King, 12345; I. J. Lee, 12345; K. L. Martin, 12345; M. N. Owen, 12345; P. Q. Evans, 12345; R. S. Phillips, 12345; T. U. Turner, 12345; V. W. Walker, 12345; X. Y. Young, 12345; Z. A. Allen, 12345; B. C. Brown, 12345; D. E. White, 12345; F. G. Black, 12345; H. I. Jones, 12345; J. K. Smith, 12345; L. M. Taylor, 12345; N. O. Wilson, 12345; P. Q. Evans, 12345; R. S. Phillips, 12345; T. U. Turner, 12345; V. W. Walker, 12345; X. Y. Young, 12345; Z. A. Allen, 12345.

**SHIRBOROUGH**  
A. B. Baker, 12345; C. D. Green, 12345; E. F. Hall, 12345; G. H. King, 12345; I. J. Lee, 12345; K. L. Martin, 12345; M. N. Owen, 12345; P. Q. Evans, 12345; R. S. Phillips, 12345; T. U. Turner, 12345; V. W. Walker, 12345; X. Y. Young, 12345; Z. A. Allen, 12345; B. C. Brown, 12345; D. E. White, 12345; F. G. Black, 12345; H. I. Jones, 12345; J. K. Smith, 12345; L. M. Taylor, 12345; N. O. Wilson, 12345; P. Q. Evans, 12345; R. S. Phillips, 12345; T. U. Turner, 12345; V. W. Walker, 12345; X. Y. Young, 12345; Z. A. Allen, 12345.

**LIVERPOOL**  
A. B. Baker, 12345; C. D. Green, 12345; E. F. Hall, 12345; G. H. King, 12345; I. J. Lee, 12345; K. L. Martin, 12345; M. N. Owen, 12345; P. Q. Evans, 12345; R. S. Phillips, 12345; T. U. Turner, 12345; V. W. Walker, 12345; X. Y. Young, 12345; Z. A. Allen, 12345; B. C. Brown, 12345; D. E. White, 12345; F. G. Black, 12345; H. I. Jones, 12345; J. K. Smith, 12345; L. M. Taylor, 12345; N. O. Wilson, 12345; P. Q. Evans, 12345; R. S. Phillips, 12345; T. U. Turner, 12345; V. W. Walker, 12345; X. Y. Young, 12345; Z. A. Allen, 12345.

**MANCHESTER**  
A. B. Baker, 12345; C. D. Green, 12345; E. F. Hall, 12345; G. H. King, 12345; I. J. Lee, 12345; K. L. Martin, 12345; M. N. Owen, 12345; P. Q. Evans, 12345; R. S. Phillips, 12345; T. U. Turner, 12345; V. W. Walker, 12345; X. Y. Young, 12345; Z. A. Allen, 12345; B. C. Brown, 12345; D. E. White, 12345; F. G. Black, 12345; H. I. Jones, 12345; J. K. Smith, 12345; L. M. Taylor, 12345; N. O. Wilson, 12345; P. Q. Evans, 12345; R. S. Phillips, 12345; T. U. Turner, 12345; V. W. Walker, 12345; X. Y. Young, 12345; Z. A. Allen, 12345.

# Super-weapon

In an underground silo at Semipalatinsk, Southern USSR, is a machine that could upset the balance of world power dramatically and irrevocably. General George Keegan, Ex-Head of US Air Force Intelligence claims that this device, the High Energy Proton Beam, represents the biggest advance in weapon technology since the atom bomb. It concentrates the energy from several atomic explosions into a laser-thin ray which can form a 'proton curtain' around the Iron Curtain: an impregnable defence net that would destroy any missile entering Russian airspace.

The Proton Beam is part of a terrifying new world of weaponry revealed tonight on *This Week*. Keegan says the West is now as unprepared as at the time of Pearl Harbour; that the Proton Beam can totally neutralise NATO's strategic deterrent; that it could be operative within two years. If he is to be believed, time is fast running out for the Western Allies.

# The Superweapons

Part two of a five-part report by Peter Williams on international intelligence and its role in the world power game.

# This Week on Thames Television

9.30pm tonight on ITV

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## OVERSEAS

# Mrs Gandhi says she acted alone in proclaiming emergency without discussion with Cabinet

From Richard Wigg  
Delhi, April 6

Mrs Indira Gandhi, the former Prime Minister of India, has conceded that she acted alone, and without consulting the Cabinet, in deciding the fateful proclamation of emergency in June 1975.

In an interview with *The Statesman* of Calcutta, the first since her resignation after the general election defeat on March 22, Mrs Gandhi declared: "So far as I am concerned I am out of politics just now."

She likened the emergency to a "deviation" and said: "Those are things that we cannot discuss beforehand."

Last week Mr Charan Singh, the Minister of Home Affairs in the Janata Government, told Parliament that the Cabinet had approved the proclamation on June 26, one day after the President had signed it on receipt from the Prime Minister's Office.

When asked about Mr Sanjay Gandhi, her younger son, Mrs Gandhi said that there was no basis for stories that there was somebody guiding her privately from behind.

"Whatever decisions taken regarding government policy were in Cabinet... except for the emergency or, for instance, devaluation," she emphasized. "Except for these two things everything else always came through various committees, or Cabinet, or committees of Cabinet."

Mrs Gandhi defended her son and Mr Bansi Lal, the former Defence Minister, Rep-

lying to a question about some Congress leaders now blaming her son for everything, she said: "I know, but one cannot—can you?—give credence to it. If things were so wrong surely they should have said that before. So far as I know Sanjay struck just to his five-point programme which was part of the Government programme since the 1950s, even during my father's time."

Of her own defeat in her constituency at Rae Bareilly, she said that there had been a campaign by the Opposition against her. She also complained of "exaggerated stories" spread by newspapers and others.

Questioned about the defection of Mr Jagjivan Ram, her Minister of Agriculture who is a member of the new Government as leader of Congress for Democracy, Mrs Gandhi said that he had not appeared to make a very serious issue of lifting the emergency when he saw her just before resigning. If he had given her even a hint she felt that a way out could have been found.

She acknowledged that several Congress leaders now felt demoralized and uprooted. But this was not true of party workers in the field.

Mrs Gandhi, who is 59, admitted that she is a "reliant" to feel the big burden is off my shoulders but so many people from all walks of life still came to see her that she had not had time to decide her future plans yet or even where to live. She had also still to decide how to earn her living.

She was not seeking a post in the party or elsewhere. When asked if she felt, on second thoughts, that she had miscalculated calling the election, Mrs Gandhi replied: "So far as the Government was concerned the election was certainly free and fair. But we know in many places the situation was not entirely impartial." She refused to elaborate.

Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, is to visit Delhi for talks with the new Government at the end of the month, it was learnt here today.

The initiative for the meeting, it is understood, was taken by the Russians, who approached Mr. A. B. Vajpayee, the Minister of External Affairs. They were apparently concerned by the comments of Mr Morarji Desai, the Prime Minister, about the Indo-Soviet friendship treaty.

Mr Vajpayee sought to reassure Mr K. Misra, the Soviet Ambassador, about the new Government's interest in good relations with the Soviet Union when he called last week.

A Soviet Embassy release said today that in a message to Mr Jagjivan Ram, the new Indian Defence Minister, his Soviet colleague had affirmed that he looked forward to "developing further" their military cooperation.

Forty-one political detainees died in Indian prisons during the 19 months of the emergency, Mr Singh told Parliament today. But figures from three states including West Bengal were still awaited.

## Most Pakistan results disputed

From Our Correspondent  
Rawalpindi, April 6

Mr J. I. Ahmad, the Chief Election Commissioner of Pakistan, said today that if there was political frustration in the country over the outcome of the recent election, the commission could assume it only to the extent of its constitutional and legal powers.

For political problems only a political solution could be devised, and it was not for the Election Commission to do so, he told a press conference in Rawalpindi.

He said that results in the election to the National Assembly and many in those to the provincial Assemblies had been disputed in complaints to the commission alleging official interference and irregularities. In a number of cases the commission had undertaken summary inquiries. Most cases should be decided by eight

election tribunals each headed by a chief justice or permanent judge of a high court.

The Pakistan National Alliance of nine opposition parties had alleged that the election had been rigged by the Government whose candidates won 155 of the 200 seats. The Alliance demanded the resignation of the Government and of the Election Commission, and called for a fresh general election of the Government and of the Supreme Court and the Army.

Mr Jan said that the commission should not be blamed for the "misdeeds and corrupt practices of others". The commission had to rely on the official machinery which was not under its disciplinary control.

Some "hair raising" incidents of gross malpractices had come to light in the course of preliminary inquiries. The commission could not have directly asked the armed

forces to help in the conduct of the election but he had forwarded a request by Professor Ghafur Ahmad, the Opposition leader, for the assistance of the Army to Mr Bhutto, the Prime Minister.

Mr Bhutto visited three provincial capitals, Karachi, Quetta and Peshawar during the week on the occasion of the forming of new governments in these provinces.

Mr Iqbal Khan Jadoon, a defector from the Muslim League, displaced Mr Nasrullah Khan Khattak as the People's Party Chief Minister of the North West Frontier Province.

Mr Mustafa Jatoi was re-elected Chief Minister of Sindh and Mr Mohammad Khan Barozai Chief Minister of Baluchistan.

The new Government in Punjab is to be installed on Sunday and the Opposition plans to stage a mass protest.

## Mao's son endorses new regime

Peking, April 6.—Mao An-ching, the only known living member of former chairman Mao Tse-tung's immediate family who has escaped purge or arrest, today expressed public support for his successor, Chairman Hua Kuo-feng. It was the first time that the People's Daily mentioned the name of Mao An-ching, Mao's second son, by his first wife Yang Kai-hui. He is about 33 years old.

Since the death of Mao Tse-tung in September, his widow Chiang Ching has been arrested as a member of the "gang of four", his nephew Mao Yuan-bin was taken into custody over the same controversy in north-east China, and his daughter Mao Linlin and Chiang Ching, has disappeared and is believed to be under arrest.

The party newspaper carried a report on its front page that in December Mao An-ching sent Marshal Ye Chien-ying a poem in Mao's calligraphy that the party vice-chairman and Defence Minister had composed in 1965.

This was a symbolic message, observers here said, expressing support by Mao An-ching for the new leadership.

It is not known what Mao An-ching is doing at present. His father disclosed at one time that he had suffered mental health problems.

In the inside pages of the paper, Deng Xiaoping and his wife Shao Hui signed an article attacking Chiang Ching's "gang of four".

Agence France-Press.

## Help sought for suppressed El Salvador paper

By David Watts

A rare example of politically independent journalism in Central America ended in El Salvador last month when the Government ordered the closure of the daily newspaper *La Crónica*.

Though it has a circulation of only about 10,000, the newspaper had an influence disproportionate to its size.

Despite a well-organized campaign in which he managed to persuade the Government to allow the newspaper to retain its printing interests, the editor, Señor José Napoleón González, has fled El Salvador in fear of his life. He set off on a tour of European capitals in an attempt to win international support for a campaign to have the newspaper reopened.

Concerned with the conditions of the majority of the population of El Salvador, of whom 60 per cent are illiterate and where 50 families own 80 per cent of the land, Señor González decided to devote himself to "seeking civilized and peaceful formulas to correct these injustices".

Señor González feels that his task is more urgent than ever, despite the recent increases in the value of El Salvador's coffee crop and despite United Nations recommendations that the country's wealth should be used more to benefit the peasants.

He founded the newspaper, as a weekly publication in 1968. He soon earned the displeasure of the right-wing military Government by printing stories of allegedly fraudulent voting returns in La Unión and Sonsonate provinces in the general election of 1972. The Government reacted by applying economic measures against the newspaper.

What seems to have finally convinced the Government to close the newspaper were a number of human rights issues. The newspaper warmly endorsed President Carter's pledge to make respect for human rights a leading feature of his foreign policy.

It has reported on the detention and torture of a Belgian priest who was later deported to Guatemala. It has also reported on abuse of human rights in Chile, Uruguay, Argentina and Brazil.

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Bishop Abel Muzorewa, who arrived in London yesterday, seen with Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, and Mr Jeremy Thorpe.

## Guerrilla war strain in Rhodesia

From Michael Knipe  
Salisbury, April 6

A Rhodesian military spokesman said today that there are an estimated 2,500 African nationalist guerrillas operating inside the country. This is an increase of 500 on previous estimates. The spokesman added that there were believed to be "some thousands" of guerrillas undergoing training outside Rhodesia.

Although sources familiar with the tribal trust lands say that in many of them guerrillas are now moving around freely and making routine contact with the local population, the military spokesman insisted that as far as the Rhodesian authorities were concerned "there is not a permanent terrorist base in Rhodesia". This would not be allowed, he said, "we harass them all the time."

In an attempt to combat the guerrillas' contacts with the rural Africans the authorities have stepped up their programme of resettling the people in protected villages.

In the Hwange valley, a main guerrilla infiltration route from Mozambique, the entire population of about 17,500 people are

being resettled in seven fenced and guarded villages.

The military spokesman admitted that some people were "not very happy" about moving but said that these were persuaded rather than forced to move. He added that when the programme was completed an estimated 250,000 people would be accommodated in protected villages.

The spokesman was giving an assessment of the military situation on the eve of the visit to Africa of Dr Owen, the Foreign Secretary, which is aimed at attempting to find a new formula for a peaceful transition to majority rule in Rhodesia.

The impression from the military briefing was that although the Rhodesian authorities regard the nationalist rebels as an "inferior, poorly trained rabble", they are nevertheless placing an increasing strain on the Government's forces in terms of manpower, costs and subversion of the black civilian population, and that there is little sign of the Government forces gaining greater control of the situation.

The 2,500 guerrillas inside the country are spread through four military operational areas. In a number of areas they move in and out of the country at will

most of them—about 2,300—belong to Zanu (Zimbabwe African National Liberation Army), the military wing of Zanu (Zimbabwe African National Union), and operate from bases in Mozambique, with access points along the entire Mozambique border. The remainder are from the military wing of Zapu (Zimbabwe African People's Union) and operate out of Zambia and through Botswana.

The United African National Council, which is led by Bishop Abel Muzorewa, issued a statement today saying it would give serious consideration to a plan for the drawing up of an independence constitution for Rhodesia before the establishment of an interim government, a plan reported to be under consideration by the British Government.

Salisbury, April 6.—A Swiss-born Roman Catholic priest, Father Paul Egli, who was sentenced to five years' jail for failing to report the presence of guerrillas, today had the prison term cut to one year.

At his trial in Bulawayo in January, Father Egli, aged 45, admitted five charges of failing to report the presence of nationalist guerrillas at his mission near Fort Victoria.

## Yugoslav doubts over human rights issue

By Roger Berthoud

The Yugoslavs are determined not to allow this summer's follow-up conference in Belgrade on security and co-operation in Europe to degenerate into an East-West slanging-match on human rights.

That was the firm impression left by Mr Stane Dolanc, secretary of the executive of the presidency of the Yugoslav League of Communists, at a press conference in London yesterday, which concluded three days as guest of the Labour Party.

"It is certain that the Belgrade conference will discuss all the issues discussed at the Helsinki conference (of 1975)", he said. He instanced economic and cultural cooperation. But he added: "We are of the view that it would be completely wrong to have human rights in the foreground. 'Nor do we want Belgrade to become a tribunal for mutual polemics and condemnation of each other. We want Belgrade to discuss the actual problems of Europe and the world, and to represent a significant stage in implementing all the Helsinki decisions', he said.

Mr Dolanc, who is 51, thought it was natural that human rights had become a "most attractive issue". But he believed mistakes were often made about what human rights actually were, where they began, and what dissidents were. He also wondered about the objective usefulness of human rights campaigns.

There were political prisoners in Yugoslavia, he said. "I don't know how many, but I know there are not very many, and that some of them have seriously violated our laws. Among others are some foreign agents, and we are going to arrest them in future too." The agents were mostly

of the Cominformist (pro-Moscow) variety, he said.

Asked whether there would be an amnesty for political prisoners before the Belgrade conference (the preparatory phase of which opens in June) Mr Dolanc said there was at least one amnesty a year in Yugoslavia. There would be one this year.

He parried questions about President Tito's eventual successor with some skill and humour. "I hope you are going to ask me this question about an heir for a long time to come", he said with a smile.

He did not know who would succeed President Tito. "We have our own system which is well organized and functions well. We have the presidency of the state, with eight members, and it will be quite normal for the Yugoslav system to operate as it is now operating."

As for President Tito's health, he was at present on a hunting trip, and had been carrying out all his official functions during his recent convalescence.

Mr Dolanc said he thought relations with the Soviet Union were "normal" and developing in a normal way. They were founded on the principles of mutual respect, non-interference and equality. "It is only on these foundations that Yugoslavia wants to develop relations with any country in the world", he said.

During his three days in London, Mr Dolanc and his delegation saw Mr Callaghan, Mr Foot, Leader of the Commons, Dr Owen, the Foreign Secretary, and other Labour leaders. A statement issued yesterday jointly with the Labour Party called for "greater equality" in international relations and for "More equal and effective cooperation" in economic relations.

Mr Ron Hayward, General Secretary of the Labour Party, said he thought it was the first time his party had issued a joint statement with a communist delegation in Britain.

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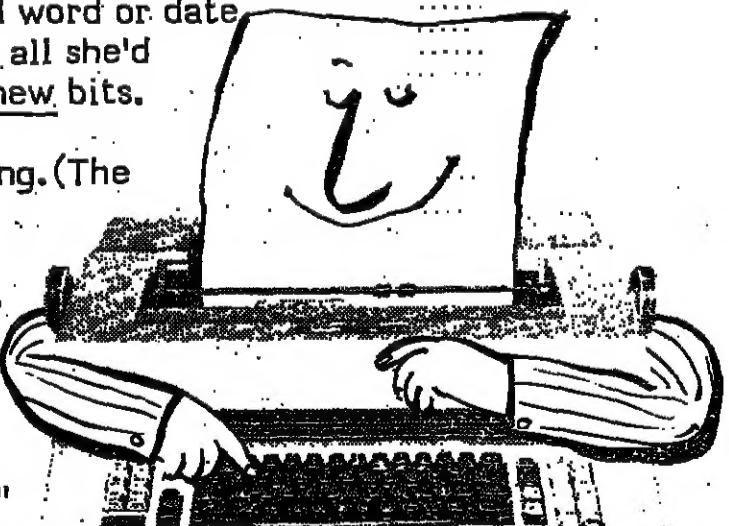
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## SPORT

## Liverpool book a passage to Rome

From Norman Fox  
Football Correspondent  
Zurich, April 6

Liverpool 3  
In all of their 13 years of European competition, Liverpool can rarely have been so poorly tested as here in the Letzigrund Stadium tonight when the Swiss champions, Zurich, fumbled and fell before no real pressure in this European Cup semi-final round first leg. Liverpool have the formality of the return game at Anfield in a fortnight's time.

There can be no doubt that they will be in Rome next month for a final against either Borussia Mönchengladbach or Dynamo Kiev. It was both a relief and a surprise to Liverpool to find that this last step before achieving the goal of the final itself was less demanding than many matches played in earlier rounds over the years. They played calmly and never looked in danger in spite of giving away an early penalty from which they quickly recovered.

Liverpool had hoped to master the game without expending too much energy at this busy time of their season. Keegan immediately drifted back to the half way line and some early nervous mistakes by the Zurich defenders suggested that Liverpool would have their way, although the Swiss were strengthened at the last minute when their industrious captain, Kuntli, was passed fit.

For Liverpool, concern flickered across their faces when Smith, playing with his customary disregard for caution no matter what the team tactics, bundled Bortone, a Swiss international, to the ground. That was in only the third minute and the referee disdainfully dismissed Smith's expansive protest that Bortone had "dived".

He was under the Turkish referee's close scrutiny from that moment and three minutes later, as Schweidler burst into the penalty area, Smith went with him and tackled heavily though hardly with unrelenting force. Smith was seen as being more serious than Smith again indicated and gave Zurich a penalty that, for the moment, seemed a generous incentive. Rishi's kick had enough power to hit the back of the net



The equalizer: Neal has time to control Kennedy's free kick before scoring.

although Clemence did manage to deflect it. For Smith there was more trouble to come when he again bundled a clumsy tackle on the wings. Bortone, whose speed was clearly too much for him. His name was taken and he must have been especially relieved when, after 15 minutes, Zigerling tripped Keegan, opening a way for Liverpool. McDermott quickly went down the wing as a decoy and Kennedy cleared the ball into the penalty area behind the defenders. Neal came in fast and controlled the ball on his thigh before hitting a shot into the far corner.

Zurich rarely finished the moves they began in midfield and their overall performance was unimpressive. They were a considerably less effective threat to Liverpool's future in the competition than St Etienne had been in the previous round. When an offside trap was set, Jones swung a shot to beat the entire defence apart from the goalkeeper and it became clear that Liverpool wanted to attack with strength.

they could dismiss any thought of losing control, his short, clean and crisp shot was accurate. Zurich faded even more disappointingly and were not noticeably improved by the substitution of Ruchmann by Dickmann. They then lost Weller with an injured leg and when Bortone, who had patted a shot around the post from two yards out, the result and surely Liverpool's place in the final was assured. After 67 minutes Fairclough gave Heighway another chance for an elegant strike.

Case's long clearance was too high for Fairclough to control, so instead he turned it inside from the touching midway into Zurich's half. Heighway went away unchallenged until in the penalty area where hear caught him and brought him down. Neal placed the penalty past Grob with the side of his foot.

Goalkeepers: M. Neer, P. Ruchbach, K. Ziegler, P. Chappuis, J. Kuhn, E. Hachmann, R. Schneider, U. Ruch, H. Weller, R. Bortone. Liverpool: R. Clemence, P. Neal, J. Jones, K. Kennedy, P. Case, S. Heighway, G. Fairclough, A. Grob, A. Bortone (Turkey).

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## Dinamo less than dynamic as German curtain falls

Kier, April 6.—Dinamo Kiev, Ukrainian champions, were defeated by Borussia Mönchengladbach in a European Cup semi-final first leg match here tonight through a header by their striker, Vladimir Onischenko, 20 minutes from the end.

Only superb saves by Wolfgang Knap and dour defending by Bernd Knip and Hans Klinkhammer kept the score down. Dinamo attacked for almost all the first half, but returned on a subdued note.

Oleg Blokhin almost scored from a corner by Leonid Buryak and in a rare counter-attack, Horst Wolter, Jupp Heynckes and Christian Kulik tested the Ukrainians. In the twenty-fifth minute of the second half Buryak took another corner and Onischenko placed his header beyond Knap's reach.

The West German struck to their place as outfield by their trainer.

Udo Lattek, before the game—strong defensive play with occasional rapid breaks. But the few breaks were all too often cut off by a header by their striker, Vladimir Onischenko, 20 minutes from the end.

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## Defeat augurs well for Belgian holders of cup

Anderlecht, the Belgian holders, must be favourites to reach the European Cup Winners' Cup Final after losing by only 1-0 to Napoli in the first leg of their semi-final in Naples. The Belgians played more convincingly than Napoli for whom Bruscolini, a fullback, snatched an unlikely winner after 82 minutes.

It was perhaps the only time in the match that Anderlecht's defence failed to clear cleanly. Bruscolini pushed the loose ball home. Up to then they had looked better organized and quicker witted. Rutter needed two attempts to save from Savaldi, Italy's most expensive player, but after 52 minutes Lampard hit the bar on his shot from the edge of the goal.

A passionate crowd of 52,000 showed their disapproval as Anderlecht smoothly broke up the Napoli attacks and initiated dangerous raids of their own. It was the first time Napoli had reached the semi-final stage of a European competition.

Anderlecht, who became the first Belgian side to win a European competition of any sort when they beat West Ham in the year's Cup Winners' Cup Final, would seem to have too much skill for this Italian side in return at Brussels in a fortnight.

Bruscolini, April 6.—Paul Breitner, a former West German international, has agreed to move from Real Madrid to Eintracht Frankfurt, Guenter Mast, a Brunswick club director, said here today.

Mr Mast said that Breitner, who moved from Bayern Munich to Frankfurt in 1974, will cost Brunswick about DM1,500,000 (£75,000). Breitner, 28, is a versatile forward who has scored 21 goals in 157 matches for the club.

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## Derby fight hard to recover at home

By Gerald Richmond  
Derby County 2 Norwich City 2  
Derby County, unbeaten in six matches, continued their tentative climb towards respectability with a draw against Norwich City at the Baseball Ground last night. They must count it as a point lost, but Norwich's insistence on playing football made this a highly entertaining match.

Neither defence was particularly sound, something which contributed to the excitement, if not to the managers' peace of mind. Norwich could easily have spoken victory when a free kick from Peters struck the base of a post with Boniton observing from the crowd and of his goal. It was eccentric positioning, and could have cost his side dearly, for they needed at least a point to rise up the table. Derby were twice behind in the first half, once before they had started and then just as they were contemplating half time. In each occasion, the scorers were Gibbins, who was signed on a free transfer from Oxford United at the start of the season. He and Reeves, the many to move from Bourne-mouth to Norwich, have taken over as the front from the injured Boyd and Busby, while both teams have been hit by injuries this season. Norwich have found some promising players to fill the gaps.

Gibbins' first goal came in the third minute, when he dived through the defence to touch in Neighbow's low, curling cross from the left. Norwich were more quickly into the game and their next football overcame the many problems of the first half. Derby's pitch, two years ago, it was ankle deep in mud; now an expensive facelift has left it looking like a well-maintained lawn. The club contemplating further action during the summer.

Derby fought hard to recover after losing a goal after 32 minutes with a subtle free kick from James. He changed his mind as he was running in to take it, leaving it to Keegan to take, and curved the ball cleverly. Although Keegan got a fast to it, he could not keep the shot out. Norwich were beginning to panic when Mustaq called on the leg spinner, Warrin Raja, his sixth bowler, to provide an escape route. After batting without blunder for two hours 55 minutes, pulled a long shot to mid-wicket where Sackin, who had caught him for a hard-fought 30.

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## Cricket

## Pakistan win fourth Test despite eighth wicket stand by W. Indies

Port of Spain, April 6.—Pakistan beat the West Indies by 266 runs in the fourth Test match here today to draw level at one game each in the five Tests series.

Earlier the West Indies eighth wicket pair, Deryck Murray and Andy Roberts, staged a desperate rearguard action trying to avert defeat. The West Indies set an impossible 489 for victory, lost three early wickets after continuing from 145 for four and appeared to be heading towards a swift and humiliating defeat. Then Murray and Roberts defied the Pakistani bowlers for an hour and a half, being undefeated at lunch after adding 34 runs.

Pakistan made an early breakthrough when play resumed in bright sunshine before a small crowd of about 3,000. On the last day of the second over, left hander Arvin Moolchandran lifted an on drive against leg spinner Mustaq Mohammad and was caught at mid-wicket. Left hander, who had not added to his overnight 45. Twenty minutes later, the fast bowler Sarfaraz Nawaz removed the West Indian batsman, who had been out for 21 and Mustaq three for 69. However, Mustaq, with scores of 121 and 56 and bowling of five for 25 and three for 62, won the award of the match award.

The confidence Pakistan will derive from this victory must give them an outstanding chance of winning the series and the final Test which starts in Kingston, Jamaica, on April 15.

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With







## Appointments Vacant

### GENERAL VACANCIES

**NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH**  
Applications are invited from suitably qualified persons for the post of:

## INSECT ECOLOGIST TICK ECOLOGIST

Applicants for these posts must have a PhD in Entomology or a related subject. Successful candidates will be required to carry out intensive fieldwork on ticks and insects in the transmission of East Coast Fever and Heartwater. They will also be required to carry out laboratory work on the biology of these organisms. The posts are based in the Department of Veterinary Research, Onderstepoort, South Africa. Salary will be according to qualifications and experience on the following scale:

Senior Professional	R5,000 - R5,718 p.a.
Principal Professional	R5,718 - R6,436 p.a.
Senior Professional	R6,436 - R7,154 p.a.
Principal Professional	R7,154 - R7,872 p.a.
Senior Professional	R7,872 - R8,590 p.a.
Principal Professional	R8,590 - R9,308 p.a.

Applications and full personal details, qualifications, experience and references should be submitted to: The National Council for Scientific Research, P.O. Box 1258, Pretoria, 0001, South Africa.

### NALGO

has a vacancy for a District Officer in its South Eastern District based at Brighton. Duties include: trade union organising activities and representing the Association and its members in various public services, under the direction of the District Organisation Officer. Salary scale is £5,001-£5,718 per annum. A car is provided (applicant must hold a current driving licence). Particulars of the appointment and application form can be obtained on request from the General Secretary, 1 Maudslayi Place, London WC2H 9AJ. Completed forms must be received by 19th April, 1977.

### SURGICAL GARMENT FITTERS

Manager and Assistant required to staff a new office on Victoria Street to measure and fit patients for custom-made surgical elastic garments on prescription. Permanent positions. Prior experience desirable.

**RING MEDICAL AND GENERAL AGENCY**  
01-535 4061 or 01-535 9446 for interview.

### ROYAL PORTHCAWL GOLF CLUB SLANDORIAN require a SECRETARY

to commence September 1st, 1977. Salary £4,000 p.a. with accommodation. Apply in writing to the Captain.

**REQUIRED URGENTLY**  
English-speaking Captain with previous experience in the management of a golf club. Must be able to handle all aspects of club management. Salary £4,000 p.a. with accommodation. Apply in writing to the Captain.

**WELL-EDUCATED INDIVIDUALS**  
wanted for a variety of good jobs in the City. Salary £4,000 p.a. with accommodation. Apply in writing to the Captain.

### LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

**ALAN GATE** Legal Staff, the specialist in legal services, offers a variety of legal services at all levels. For details of services, contact Alan Gate, 100, Strand, London, W.C.2R 0JH.

### PUBLIC AND EDUCATIONAL APPOINTMENTS

### OXFORD LOCAL EXAMINATIONS

### APPOINTMENT OF ASSISTANT TO THE SECRETARIES/ ASSISTANT SECRETARY

The Department of Education is seeking an appointment to the post of Assistant Secretary. The post holder will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the Department. Salary £4,000 p.a. with accommodation. Apply in writing to the Captain.

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### GENERAL VACANCIES

## Public Relations Officer

The Institution of Mechanical Engineers require an experienced Public Relations Officer, who will be responsible to the Secretary for the whole of the public relations activities of the Institution.

The person selected will have a wide knowledge of the engineering industry and will have experience of contacts with Government departments concerned. The duties will include the identification of important issues affecting professional engineers and the dissemination of the Institution's view to Government, other bodies of influence and the public through the communications media. The Public Relations Officer will assist the Institution in ascertaining the views of its members and will play a major part in keeping the membership informed on what the Institution is doing.

A person of not more than 55 years of age, preferably with membership of the Institution of Public Relations is sought to fill this senior appointment, which carries a salary in the region of £5,500-£6,000 per annum dependent upon qualifications and experience. There is a contributory Staff Pension Scheme, free Life Assurance and free Group Personal Accident cover.

All applications together with a curriculum vitae should be made to:

Mr. V. A. Jones,  
Administration and Personnel Officer,  
THE INSTITUTION OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERS,  
1 Birdcage Walk, WESTMINSTER, London, SW1H 9JJ.

## Lecturer in Poultry Science and Technology £2,295-£5,778 (plus Supplement)

Applications are invited from both men and women for a pensionable post in the Department of Agriculture at Longry College of Agriculture and Food Technology, Colchester.

The duties will embrace teaching and research in the Poultry Department at the College. Within each category there will be opportunity to specialise in particular aspects. Teaching is at Certificate, Higher National Diploma level and to Master's Degree standard by examination. The holder will be associated with Queen's University, Belfast and the successful candidate may be granted recognised teacher status of the University. Opportunity exists for research work to be submitted to the University for further degrees.

Applications will be considered from University graduates who possess:

1. A First or Second Class Honours Degree in Agriculture or Agricultural Science; or
2. A First or Second Class Honours Degree in Biological or Environmental Sciences, i.e., Botany, Biochemistry, Animal Physiology or Environment; or
3. A Higher Degree which embraces aspects of Animal Production, Poultry Production, Animal Behaviour or Animal Environment.

Experience in teaching or research in the Poultry field will be an advantage. Final year students may apply.

**SALARY SCALES**  
Grade IV £2,295-£3,100  
Grade III £3,101-£5,778  
A supplement of £312.25 per annum is payable. Grading and starting salary will be related to qualifications and experience.

Further information about the College is available from the Principal. Please write or telephone for an application form quoting reference SB96/7077 to Civil Service Commission, Rosepark House, Upper Newlands Road, Belfast BT3 3NR (telephone Dundonald 4585, ext. 257). Completed forms must be returned to arrive not later than 29th April, 1977.



## Assistant to Company Secretary with major commitment to overseas business

Our client is a leading UK company manufacturing and selling fast moving consumer products both in the UK and overseas.

This is a wide-ranging role, requiring investigation and reporting on legal/financial aspects of overseas subsidiaries. The purpose is to provide the Company Secretary with facts and recommendations for decision-making or presentation at board level. The method may take the form of personal research or occasional on-the-spot investigation.

Candidates, 25 to 30, probably with a secretarial or accounting qualification, ideally coupled with a Law Degree or several years' legal experience, must be equally at home with government professional advisers as with staff at all levels. A language would be useful.

Career opportunities exist within the client's large secretariat. Competitive salary and excellent large-company fringe benefits.

Please write with full details. These will be forwarded direct to our client. List separately any companies to whom your application should not be sent. Ref. A.1481.

This appointment is open to men and women.

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#### University of Botswana and University College, Botswana

#### (UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, BOTSWANA)

#### Applications are invited for the post of

#### LECTURER IN DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY

#### The post holder will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the Department. Salary £4,000 p.a. with accommodation. Apply in writing to the Captain.

#### UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

#### University of Bristol

#### Applications are invited for the post of

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## ENTERTAINMENTS

When telephoning use prefix 01 only outside London Metropolitan Area.

### OPERA & BALLET

#### COVENT GARDEN 340 1066 (Overseas charge - credit card holders £25.00)

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#### Tonight 7.30. Wed. (Prem.) 7.30. Sat. 7.30. Sun. 7.30.

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## THE ARTS

## Kafka in Occupied France

Mr Klein (22)  
EMI International,  
Bloomsbury  
Milestones  
Electric Cinema Club  
Meat  
The Other Cinema  
Airport 77 (a)  
Plaza 1  
Man on the Roof (22)  
Academy 3

Mr Klein, made in France and produced by Alain Delon, the leading actor, proves to be one of Joseph Losey's most chilling (as well as chilly, calculated and fascinating) works. Mr Robert Klein (Deon) is a near relative of Kafka's K, though the web which entangles him is woven of his own guilt. Klein is suave, charming, cultivated, well-bred and as cold as a cobra in 1942 and the Occupation (Losey's working notes on the film specify "the period, in terms of clothes, furniture, architecture, etc. must be 1942"). He is conducting a genteel but ruthless fine art business, buying cut-price for cash from Jewish fugitives. He is seeing one of his clients one day when he notices that the postman has dropped a copy of a Jewish publication, *Bulletin juif*, through his letterbox. It is addressed to Robert Klein, a namesake. It is a mistake, of course, but a tiny one in those times. He reads it, and the Jewish office of the police. He is more suspicious than sympathetic (though they remain as polite as Klein himself) and Klein begins to experience all the paranoia of the persecuted.

He becomes obsessed, also, with the other Robert Klein, an elusive figure, who is perhaps a member of the resistance, and who has all too clearly deliberately engineered the confusion. Ultimately, fascinated with this mysterious alter ego whom he never sees, Klein gives up the chance to escape to freedom, preferring to follow the second Klein to the concentration camp. The scenario is by Franco Solinas; but Losey is known to have worked with him on revisions; and it is finally a prototypical Losey scenario with its central theme of the mutual fascination of pursuer and pursued (a theme that has recurred in different forms in Losey's films, though notably in *Time Without Pity* and *The Servant*), which is geometrical and symmetrical. The conversation between Klein and the client from whom he is buying a picture at the beginning of the film is repeated almost word for word between ultimately Klein, too, must sell his estate for a fraction of its value. The client himself appears again in the final scene of the film, looming behind Klein as he is herded into the concentration camp.

Dealing with a documentary situation, Losey has chosen a style of deliberate artifice. His published working notes reveal how calculated this is. He quite deliberately distinguishes in the action the "reality" of the social world inhabited by Klein, the "reality" of the day to day world of the occupation, and certain sequences of "abstraction" — recurrent scenes in which faceless men,



Alain Delon and Jeanne Moreau in Mr Klein

almost automata, methodically plan the round-up of Paris Jews. Losey's notes, even specify camera angles appropriate to each of these elements: the "irreal" with long takes and imperceptible camera movement, the "real" with constant camera movement, the "abstractions" with "beginning close in, moving out to a general shot and finishing on empty space". The result, inevitably, is coolly theatrical; and the repellent figure of Klein as Delon (the pretty juvenile delinquent left behind) portrays him does not invite any attachment of the sentiments. This is no demerit: it is the film's chosen method. The essential human significance of the story is clearly and cleanly stated in a prologue in which a doctor (French, like all the persecutors) examines a naked woman, seeking any tell-tale, that is to say, mythical, Jewish characteristics.

Klein's obsessive quest for his alter ego is at the same time, one senses, a discovery of his own conscience. Until this overtake him he personifies a cold indifference to the plight of others, that is both reflected and reciprocated by the people around him, and is presumably the mood of France under occupation. His lawyer (Michael Cresswell) and rich friend (Jeanne Moreau) exactly echo his own terrible detachment. Only two characters are allowed by their own humanity to emphasize the insensitivity of the rest—Klein's tiny little mistress (Juliette Berto) whose momentary distress as an anti-Semitic cabaret singer, in this context, like an explosion of emotional protest; and the elusive little concierge whose detection of Robert Klein

seems to arise from a passionate devotion to his unspoken namesake. It is a film rich in enigmas and equivocation, and Losey's most personal, cerebral and arresting work for several years. Robert Kramer's *Milestones* takes its title from a poem by Ho Chi Minh: "You're only a little slab of stone. Standing on the edge of the highway. People ask you for guidance; You stop them from going And tell them the distance. Which they must journey. The service you render is no small one; People will remember what you've done."

This appropriately reflects Kramer's method—in the line of his previous films *Ice* and *The Edge*—in creating a mosaic out of a quite large group of people, none of them in himself very singular or significant, none of them a protagonist. Here he endeavours to express his feelings about America in the 70s, in the aftermath of Vietnam, with reflections on its past and its future, through a group of some 60 people, living or travelling across much of the United States. An old woman recalls the road she has taken from an impoverished immigrant childhood in the Nineties to being mistress of her own little firm in her eighties. There is a young man who has served a jail sentence for helping Vietnam deserters; fathers, mothers and children; homosexuals in a porters' American Indians; a bar-owner with money troubles; a woman who is having a child. Some of it is actual, some is acted

and you cannot always tell the difference. The film lasts 34 hours, and it is a long haul; but somehow, finally, Kramer manages to make it add up, so that you sense a real creative personality; an event; and the feeling of having experienced, a real place and time.

There is another view of America in *Meat*, whose concentration makes it the most singular of aspects of American society. It is a deadpan documentary account of a great meat packing plant, at Greeley, Colorado. The cattle and sheep we see at market, blundering untidily around and grazing rudely at the camera are led with awful dispatch and efficiency to the slaughter. Humanely and instantaneously killed, they are hoisted up, still convulsing, to join the production line. Living beings are metamorphosed into industrial materials, grist to the great economic mill, part of a great national and international scheme of things along with grain and oil and guns and butter.

Wiseman is far too intelligent and civilized an artist to make tracks. His film is not propaganda for vegetarianism or kindness to dumb animals. His image of modern society's capacity for rationalization is far more deadly. His camera takes from an impoverished immigrant childhood in the Nineties to being mistress of her own little firm in her eighties. There is a young man who has served a jail sentence for helping Vietnam deserters; fathers, mothers and children; homosexuals in a porters' American Indians; a bar-owner with money troubles; a woman who is having a child. Some of it is actual, some is acted

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latest passenger list is much as usual (bickering married couple, a black steward whose wife has just given birth to twins, the airline owner's daughter and grandson) but since the great new air liner has not Charlton Heston to pilot it nor Gloria Swanson to knock some sense into the other passengers, there is small wonder its disaster is even more dire than the last.

Nary saboteurs in false moustaches get aboard, aiming to steal the works of art the airline owner (a very antique James Stewart) is shipping to his private museum. They get the passengers, knock out Captain Jack Lemmon, and then inefficiently take the craft to the bottom of the sea. The rescue operation keeps you properly on the edge of your seat, but it naturally comes right in the end with only the villains, a couple of the more unsalvageable passengers and an execrable vocalist as fatalities.

Bo Widerberg's latest film *Man on the Roof* is really a mini-disaster film; and its final sequence with a sniper on the rooftops, gunning down everything in sight that is wearing a uniform seems almost tediously familiar both in theme and style (teasing shots of the gunman's legs, hands, weapons, but never of his face). Widerberg nevertheless shows how much an intelligent director can do even with such familiar material. The police investigation that follows the brutal murder of a hospitalized detective at the start of the film has a nice feeling for the irritations and redum of the police, effectively conveyed by the playing of Carl-Gustav Lindstedt and Hakon Serner.

delusions of an incompetent crook. To the end the author leaves these options open; and in the meantime he flirts with a third subject, as an understanding starts springing up between Billy and his captive who fill in the hours of waiting with reminiscence. He, needless to say, is low-born and illegitimate, while she is a parson's daughter. With overtones of *The Collector*, their separate reveries are clearly heralding a sexual convergence; but when it happens it simply obliterated the girl's sympathy. Again, why? Because Billy took her by force, or because the police were watching at the time? Brian Croucher's production might have done something to resolve these questions; for neither Mr Reithemann nor his partner, Lydia Lisle, offers any more than generalized outlines of captor and victim. Mr Petherbridge's dialogue is capable enough, but the piece itself amounts to no more than a brutal little anecdote.

Night Watch  
Sadler's Wells

## John Percival

I am most inclined to believe that the most striking piece of movement in the new work given on Tuesday by the London Contemporary Dance Theatre was when part of Norberto Chies's backcloth began travelling sideways, to reveal beneath the splotchy mauve mass that had occupied the centre of the stage a symmetrical continuation of the row of orange circles we had previously only half seen. Such a view is, on reflection, just slightly unfair to the choreography, but only just. At least it was the first of some sort of definite statement, which is more than can be said for the collaborative efforts of the four joint choreographers: Micha Bergese, Robert Cohan, Sibban Davies and Robert North. It was a case of many cooks making too light of their work. The piece was originally announced as *successions*, but then we were told that was only a working title and the printed programme for the season lists it simply as *New Work—Collaborations*. At the last minute, it seems, someone came up with *Night Watch*, which is about as much and as little apt as the first choice would have been. I hope it is not just

RPO/Lopez-Cobos  
Festival Hall/Radio 3

## Joan Chissell

Under the Spaniard, Jesus Lopez-Cobos, the RPO divided its programme on Tuesday between Liszt and Sibelius, with familiar works by each composer prefaced by something not heard every night of the week. It was when he travelled north that Mr Lopez-Cobos seemed most at home. By far the better of the evening's two excursions into E flat was Sibelius's fifth symphony. It was impossible to find a first place because the conductor knew it as a whole, always holding something in reserve for points of climax on the way and saving up most with a fine sense of sustained expectancy, for the finale's triumphant warmth and joy, like the first summer sun after the wintry darkness of the first movement and the first buds of spring in the Andante. In the first movement he made much of the eerie string tremolando against solitary wood movements, very delicately balanced. Its scherzando section

## London debuts

If he wanted to be certain that we knew the words of Wolf's *Mörike-Lieder* the American baritone, Frank Kubik, should have printed them in the programme: his own verbal synopsis were embarrassingly arch. Apart from that miscalculation this young artist was the week's prime discovery, able to project each song as vividly as if the experiences lavished were his own. Wolf gave him a chance (and the Goethe *Lieder* and *Harfenlied* as well) but Ravel's *Don Quichotte à Dulcinée* cycle was piquantly characterized too, and even a Mozart group, including "Der Zauberer" pointed to a natural feeling for the stage. In fact, at the start the voice itself sounded a bit grainy, but increasingly it loosened, strengthened and found the colour to uphold a lively imagination. Equal praise to Günther Bauer-Schenk for his fine work for individual distinction and true partnership.

The Danish mezzo-soprano, Hanne Stavad, lavished great care on her choice of programme (including unfamiliar Liszt and Lutoslawski) as well as on its presentation, but as yet lacks immediacy as an interpreter. Falla's *Popular Spanish Songs* most notably needed more temperament and tonal variety. But there was much to enjoy in Brahms's less intense *Songs*, in which her slightly covered timbre seemed better suited. Certainly as confidence grew, so the slightly strained production noticeable in Duparc at the outset of her recital ceded to an easier flow. Tone Lomkov kept piano parts to scale. The Purcell Room was packed for the blind American, John Henry, whose playing impressed first and foremost for the romantic feeling behind it, and the imaginative registration and fastidious ornamentation through which he made the music speak. If rhythm was sometimes questionably flexible, his fingerwork was remarkably certain as well as fluent, and nowhere more so than in his last, expansive group of Duparc. His spoken introduction, the first of the suggestion that Froberger and Couperin (represented respectively by the Suite No 12 and *Vingt-quatrième Ordre*) were the Schumann and Chopin of their day.

Newcomers as a duo though well-known orchestral players, the flautist, Judith Hall, and the harpist, David Watkins, were particularly close and persuasive in their second hat of Rossini, Dodegson, and most of all, Fauré, Ravel and Ibert. Older music brought no less accord in phrasing and shading, both nicely supplemented now and again by the harp sounded disproportionately forward. In Fantasies for solo flute by Telemann perhaps Miss Hall had not quite the aptitude of her partner in a harp sonata by John Pary and an ear-catching *Petite Suite* of his own composition, in both of which his registration was uncommonly striking. The aim of the Parnassus Ensemble, from Belgium, is to "recapture the spirit and style

cynicism that makes me think the apparent difficulty of many choreographers in naming their works implies that they are not always sure what they are trying to do.

That is certainly the way the present work looks. It has one or two moments to relieve its bland surface. One of other of the choreographers has clearly developed a liking for little hops: they occur, as a delightful surprise, in Robert North's otherwise lugubrious early solo, and they are made much of in a trio for Christopher Bannerman, Celia Hulton and Sallie Estep. The other moment of pleasing invention is a duet towards the end in which North and Sibban Davies keep turning their backs on each other in a would-be relationship that refuses to bloom. And I was forgetting a day passage when a group danced briefly as in a ballroom, then the men suddenly swirled the women high in a circle. Unfortunately such moments merely relieve the competent but dull procession of German-inspired clichés which make up the bulk of the dancing. The music is another of Bob Downes's serviceable but same-sounding compositions, slightly more varied this time but not really breaking new ground. Chies's costume designs, blue tights with decoration on the upper body, are not very flattering, and even his setting seems at first to promise more than it gives.

had a nice lilting rhythm. At no point in the finale did he allow the brass to bray. The Sibelius rarity was the incidental music written for a Helsinki production of Mästerlücks's *Felless* at Malmö in 1905.

Scored for small orchestra, this brought even more evidence of the conductor's discerning tact than did the symphony. Slender as it is, the music is evocative, charming and tender, especially the portraits of Mästerlücks herself. Here the players responded to the pastel shades with the refinement of chamber musicians. In Liszt's E flat major piano concerto there was a Spesh soloist too, Raul Orozco. This performance had more brio than the prescribed maestro or the implied finesse, with one or two accidents in the course of bounding octaves. All Mr Orozco needs is to calm down a bit for there was some excessive phrasing in the Adagio. The concerto began with Liszt's first Meppisto Waltz in its comparatively unfamiliar orchestral dress. But one fine pianist can tell us more about this music than all London's orchestras put together.

of baroque music "with original instruments (or replicas) as their main means. If the tart, ready voice of the baroque abse inevitably dominated, the recorder and baroque flute were equal partners in agility (even the cello and harpsichord too) as a splendid E minor Concerto by Holzmörder convincingly proved. In a suite by Parchman the recorder player seemed to strain for more expression than the instrument could yield. Not so the dove-like flautist, Barthold Kuijken, whose way with a G minor sonata attributed to Bach was one of the highlights of the week.

Joan Chissell

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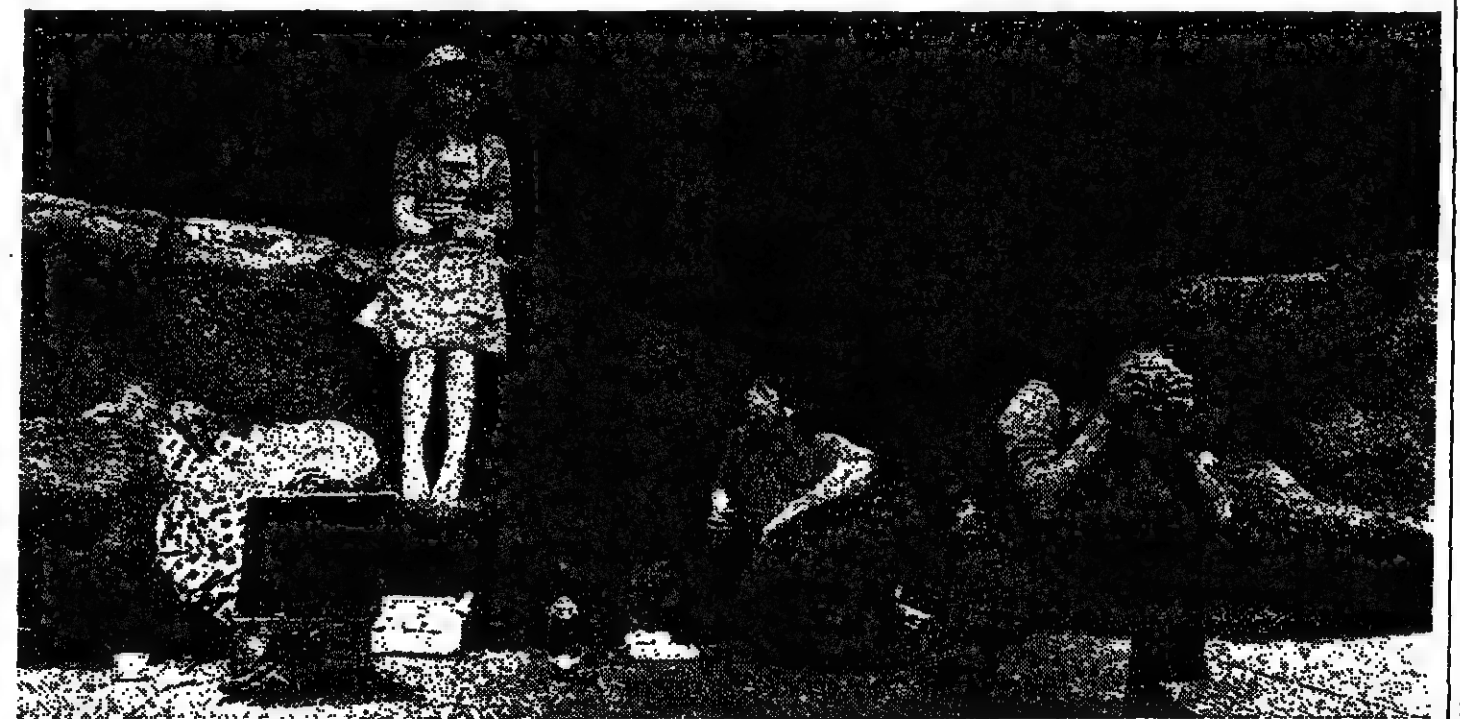
## Crusading trip through motorway Britain

Strawberry Fields  
Cottesloe  
Bank Siege  
Soho Poly

## Irving Wardle

Public telephones in Britain are not what they used to be; nor are cars. Try to buy a child's toy, and instead of durable wood or metal you are palmed off with some rubbishy piece of plastic. As for buildings, how often you see a decent family house demolished to make way for a block of mock-Georgian rabbit hutches. From there it is but a short step to viewing unfamiliar human faces, immigrants, or social outsiders, who make as much of plastic trash and no substitute for the real thing.

Coming from a middle-aged spokesman, this line of thought would hardly arouse a flicker of interest. The novelty of Steven Pollakoff's play is that he finds it taking a grip on the young, and developing out of the idealistic conservatism and anti-pollution movements of the past decade. Mr Pollakoff's past work consists partly of dire prophecy and partly of studies of existing urban desolation. In *Strawberry Fields* he combines these elements in a crusading journey of transport cabs, gutted garages, and underground "gangs" along the motorway to the bleak length of motorway Britain. The two campaigners are Charlotte, a Home Counties girl turned activist from frigid disgust; and Kevin, a survivor of the Woodstock generation, turned "cinematic troglodyte" and now going blind. Together they form the spearhead of an "English People's Party" heading for Scotland to spread the word and collect subscriptions. Aside from their contempt for the National Front and their strong feelings on the despoliation of the countryside, they leave you largely in the dark as to the party's aims and structure. That is the first flaw in a play which is set up as an extended interview between their first stop, Charlotte and Kevin, who pick up the hitchhiking Nick, whose determina-



Jane Asher, Kenneth Cranham and Stephen Rea

tion to join them clearly serves the author's convenience as much as his own desire for a lift. Nick, noting out what he has of their intentions, responds with self-righteous liberal disapproval; but he still tags along, becoming involved in the killing of a policeman (the production's main coup de théâtre), and the subsequent flight to an unpolluted Northumbrian hillside where the play reaches its equally violent ending.

Mr Pollakoff may well be right in his predictions; for all I know, the English People's Party may already be here. What he fails to do is to establish a credible action for the three characters. Each stands for a recognizable English type, and separately they can make good and sometimes frightening sense; as where Stephen Rea's Kevin erupts into total recall of Asher's Charlotte rests her case on the question "When did you feel happy about the future?" It is wholly in character as well as effective that

she should do the killing and also scrupulously clear up the picnic litter. But so far as any relationship goes, each might be talking under a sound-proof glass bell. Indeed, much of the dialogue is constructed on the deafness principle. Kenneth Cranham as the "lucky" hanger-on is obliged to phrase his complaints as wheedling demands for attention. "Look at me," he nags, in an aggrieved whine that becomes as irritating to the spectators as to his companions. And when the party tumbles on a second unwanted hitchhiker, that is the cue for another harangue to fall on deaf ears.

Michael Apted's production at least evokes the full Pollakoff landscape, with fruit-machines and hamburger stalls succeeding each other in unadorned isolation, and the stages of the journey punctuated with roars and main-beams of the M1 putting the audience in the driving seat. If this were a first play by a 25-year-old, one would sal-

**The Times Special Reports.**  
All the subject matter on all the subjects that matter



# Fashion

by Prudence Glynn



Getting re-started. Jean Baudrand too had a benign start in the textile world. His family in Lyons were at the centre of things, and then he married the daughter of one of the greatest entrepreneurs in this design field, Miki Sekers. In 1976, when Miki was already dead and Jean Baudrand in control, he had to contend with the swop of monetary control of the business. By April 1977 he had the option "to pack my bags and go back to France" or to try to do something on his own account. "I had a great white elephant of a house to pay for, and we were so vulnerable, as a public company. We were bought—my style, which was part of Sekers design image, was criticized." Jean Baudrand then set about putting himself into business on his own account. Trained not only in design but in business management, he is a rare bird in the British net. "But no one in England wanted to know." They did in America, and now Jean Baudrand has a range of beautiful furnishing materials being made by Weave Corporation. This tulip motif is one of them.



Getting started. Anthony Ma, born in Hong Kong, and trained at the Berkshire College of Art vocational course. Last year he was commended in the Royal Society of Arts fashion bursaries. He specializes in those very soft, flattering and exquisitely made dresses which betray the sense of detail and the love of handwork and the willingness to labour lovingly which is a characteristic of the Far East. Making just in ones and twos now, Anthony Ma hopes to be able to set up his own business one day, and to date his best patron has been Peach Michelle, originally of Debenhams, late of Wakefields, and now, for the benefit of her many friends and customers, to be found at Plaif, 53 Knightsbridge. Although I picked out Anthony Ma's dress there, I have to add that Plaif to my experience has the biggest selection of evening clothes I have ever seen. Whatever your taste or size or needs or pocket, you must be able to find something there. This dress, by Anthony Ma, is called Butterfly.

Photograph by Mervyn Franklin

Getting started. This young man is Marc Broyer, French, with a background in fashion production and now a shop in Covent Garden. The shop, Les 2 Zebres, is at 38 Tavistock Street, WC2. M. Broyer's problem is to get his neat, new and eminently wearable men's clothes actually made in sturdy old Britain. So far the shop has had to be filled with, it must be said very attractive, casual clothes from many sources. But here is a designer, sharp, practical, trained by Lee Cooper, with a true handwriting and a solid direction who yet, when he approached most menswear designers in this country, he met with the attitude that, how ever bad business, they do not want to change their ways. More imaginative companies with manufacturing capacity, take note. The name is Marc Broyer, and you will be hearing it.



## Youth, and the pre-eminence of British design

This newspaper being a journal of record, I was musing perforce last week on the career of Yves Saint Laurent. Even if the reports on his state of health were greatly exaggerated—dead on Monday, being interviewed after his collection on Tuesday—they do concentrate on two hopes. The first must be for anybody who enjoys fashion that so great a talent, so intuitive and graceful a designer may go on to delight and surprise us with many ideas yet. He is, after all, only 41, though that does make it the reputedly ominous 20-year span since he took over from Christian Dior, an inheritance as uncomfortable as many French thrones have proved to be, but in his case leading to renaissance, not collapse. The second hope must be that the unique place of Yves Saint Laurent in fashion record will be accurately covered.

One aspect of that specialness concerns me today. Yves Saint Laurent and Andre Courreges are the only two surviving really great designers who were reared in the great traditions of French haute couture. Courreges was trained by the inimitable Balenciaga and went on to develop the radical cut and supreme techniques and ethics of the Master, in quite his own way, and to impose a certain look on the whole conscious fashion world. But the world spins, and never faster than in fashion, and among others it has left behind is Courreges.

No hopeful could have had a more benign start than Saint Laurent. At the age of 17 he arrived in Paris from his native Oran with a family introduction to Michel de Brunhoff, head of French Vogue. De Brunhoff took the obviously brilliant boy to another friend, Christian Dior. He was hired, trained,

calked by Dior "mon Dauphin" and regarded, at any rate among the designer end of this already massive business, as heir apparent. And he succeeded. When Christian Dior died in 1957, 10 years precisely since the launch of his omnipotent New Look, 21-year-old Yves Saint Laurent took his place. The crown contained thorns as well as diamonds. Acclaimed at first for presenting one, simple, easily understood line, the "trapeze" which the least literate journalist and the silliest buyer and great wheels of (especially American) mass production could grasp, make, and promote with the Paris label and all the authority it carried, his rash fellow soon got to doing his own thing, altering skirts lengths, can you believe it, actually acting as though he was Dior.

The middle act was less happy. Surrendered to army service, Yves Saint Laurent surrendered his mind and his body in total collapse. When he recovered and was discharged, it was to find a suave, amiable and extremely competent man in his Dior shoes. He set up on his own, and in 1972 was branded as a traitor to his background when he announced that in future he would concentrate on ready-to-wear. He should have been ringed with garlands as the messiah of the new French fashion era.

Getting started in England is hedged with so many ifs, such social, technical, commercial and economic and aesthetic buts that I sometimes wonder how the young do it at all. They do, though, and the way that some of them do it can be seen next Wednesday, April 13, after the news on ITV. Faithful readers know how much I hate the implication that good design has got to be expensive and so be restricted to a privileged minority. Rubbish, say I. This is one of the few countries where you can buy smashing clothes to suit any size or type or taste, clothes with an inherent individuality, a precise handwriting at a fraction of what you would pay almost anywhere else, and I am not counting in devalued pounds either; I am counting in design preeminence. Only two garments in my 100 presentation next week cost more than £50, and they are in through my own incompetence, although both are so lovely I think they rate me some artistic licence. Most of the things though cost half of that figure, and many a fraction.

Wallis Shops opens the show with a group by a group—Sylvia Ayton, Gary Edwards, Michael Reeves, Valerie Cowridge and Carolyn Freeman. It has been the genius of Jeffrey Wallis and his brother to mould a deliberately disparate clutch of talents to provide a cross-section of the market. Jeffrey is the only man I know bold enough to compute "design risk factor" on paper to a grand seminar—and to end up with a cohesive design look.

My second shot in the mass market area was Stirling Cooper, again available all over the country, again a firm which under Ronnie Stirling has recognized the wealth of young talent and the new direction of fashion. This season the things I liked

## £50,000 prize for teacher who gave 'life to Lord'

The Templeton Foundation Prize of £50,000 for progress in religion will be presented to Miss Chiana Lubich, founder of the Focolare Movement, by the Duke of Edinburgh in the Jerusalem Chamber of Westminster Abbey today.

A ceremony in Guildhall, Cardinal Willebrands, president of the Vatican Secretariat for Promoting Christian Unity, said the Focolare Movement was a vital source of the renewal and future of the Church.

Miss Lubich explained that her movement began in Treviso, northern Italy, 34 years ago when poverty was rife and the war was having a terrible effect on the city and villages near by. Then a teacher, she offered her life "for ever to be Lord". So began a movement which spread throughout the world crossing barriers between churches, cultures and religions.

Focolare, an Italian word meaning heart, bedside, or family, was given as a nickname to the group who began the movement with Miss Lubich in 1943. The theme of Focolare is love, and Miss Lubich said that through the movement "the world of love is coming to life without fuss".

The mass of people who gain our heart are the atheists of East and West. They are the poorest people because they are poor without God and eternal life. Miss Lubich ended with the words of St John of the Cross: "Where you do not find love, put love and you will find love."

In awarding the annual prize to Miss Lubich, the foundation said she had been helping people of many denominations to grow spiritually. Her contribution to promoting unity among Christians was one of the most outstanding achievements in inter-church and inter-faith relations.

Cardinal Willebrands said: "Christian history has not been exempt from stagnation, from the petrification of institutions which began under the impulse of love. The Focolare Movement is indispensable to ecumenism for it communicates our common commitment to Christ across the barriers we have grown up with."

Miss Lubich, who was born in Treviso in 1920, became a teacher in the surrounding villages. After university she became a leader of Catholic Action and of the Franciscan Third Order.

Like previous recipients of the award, Miss Lubich will use the money for charity. It is planned to enlarge the maternity ward of a Focolare hospital in Cameroon, to build houses in a shanty town near Recife, Brazil, to help to finance the last stage of a training centre in the Philippines, and to help the Town of Charity for handicapped children started by the Focolare in Rome.

Dr Jakobovits, Chief Rabbi of the United Hebrew Congregations of the Commonwealth, opened the ceremony at Guildhall with the reading of a psalm.

Mrs John Templeton said the award, which was first presented 15 years ago, was inspired partly by the statement of a scientist who said that when the history of the twentieth century was written the new discovery would be found in the realm of the spirit. Mrs Templeton said the award was intended to awaken men, or to make known to men, new revelations, new ideas about God; inspiration or thoughts that would enlighten uncharted areas.

The judges for the prize are: Queen Fabiol of the Belgians; the Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople; M. Massarani Echigo, a leading Japanese Buddhist; Sir Bernard Lewis, Professor of Radio Astronomy, Manchester University; Mr A. A. Fenn, former Indian ambassador to Italy; the Rev Dr Norman Vincent Peale, of New York; Prince Foon Pimai Diskul, president of the World Fellowship of Buddhists; Mr Edmund G. Reuter, Council of Christian and Jews; and the Bishop of Winchester, Dr Toller.

Previous recipients have been: Mother Teresa of Calcutta (1973); Brother Roger of Taizé (1974); Sir Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan (1975); and Cardinal Suenens (1976).

## Alcohol deadlier for women than for men

By Our Medical Correspondent  
Tests on alcoholics at the Royal Free Hospital in Hampstead, London, have shown that women are more likely than men to develop medical complications from drinking and to die as a result. A report published in the *British Medical Journal* today gives the results of a follow-up of 106 alcoholics seen at the hospital in 1975.

Of 77 men and 23 women, almost all the women had signs of liver damage compared with only 10 per cent of the men. They have damage and mental disturbances were more than twice as common in the women as in the men. Within a year of the assessment of the men and five of the women had died.

Admission to hospital for alcoholism have more than doubled in the past 10 years, the report says. Women still form a minority of such admissions, but in part that may be because women are suspected of alcoholism less readily. Heavy drinking still carries a social stigma for women and is often done at home.

But there is no evidence that the greater severity in women of the complications of alcoholism is due to delay in diagnosis; women do seem to be more likely to develop cirrhosis with a shorter period of excessive drinking.

**University news**  
Oxford  
The Shelly-Miles Prize has been awarded to S. J. B. Evers, scholar of St Catherine's College.

Appointments  
Lecturers: M. Williams, BA, PhD, will be lecturing on "The Roman Empire" at the University of London.

Liverpool  
Dr J. K. Davies, MA, DPhil (Oxon), fellow and tutor in ancient history, Oriel College, Oxford, has been awarded the Rathbone Chair of Ancient History and Classical Archaeology from October 1 on the retirement of Professor F. W. Walbank.

Bradford  
Honorary officers will be conferred on May 4 on Mr. MacBride, Mayor of Bradford, and Miss Josefa de Vasconcelos, sculptor.

Salford  
The Duke of Edinburgh has been appointed chancellor until June, 1977.

"Know what's so great about my hairstyle? I can touch it."

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## The Rough and the Smooth

Chances are your digestive system's not running smoothly. Why? Because today's refined and processed foods don't give your digestion the stimulus it needs: the roughage or natural fibre that absorbs moisture to keep food passing through efficiently.

The best way of restoring regularity to your system is bran, the outer layers of wheat. Try one or two tablespoons of Allinson Natural Bran Plus a day, and you'll soon note the difference. More, Bran Plus is fine-textured—a pleasant, easy extra to add to any meal; to breakfast cereals, soups, stews, pies and hosts more dishes. Bran is naturally present in many other Allinson products: Stoneground 100% Wholemeal Flour, Bran Biscuits, Bran Bread Mix—take your pick! And take the 'rough' to keep your system working smoothly.



مكتبة الامم المتحدة



## CITROËN GS Pallas

"A Citroen GS has a ride every bit as good as, perhaps better than, a Rolls-Royce." This flattering comparison from a recent issue of 'Car' magazine should bring cheer to motorists currently in a mood of rebellion against the runaway inflation in new car prices, and who are additionally searching for a car that qualifies for minimum taxation under the new company cars tax law.

It was of course the celebrated Citroen hydropneumatic suspension that prompted 'Car' to eulogize in such terms but the GS Pallas is worthy of more detailed examination by those motorists who might automatically expect a drop in c.c. rating to portend an inevitable drop in luxury. A black vinyl or optional sunshine roof, protective chrome side strips and integral chrome wheel trims distinguish the Pallas at once from the other Citroen GS variations.

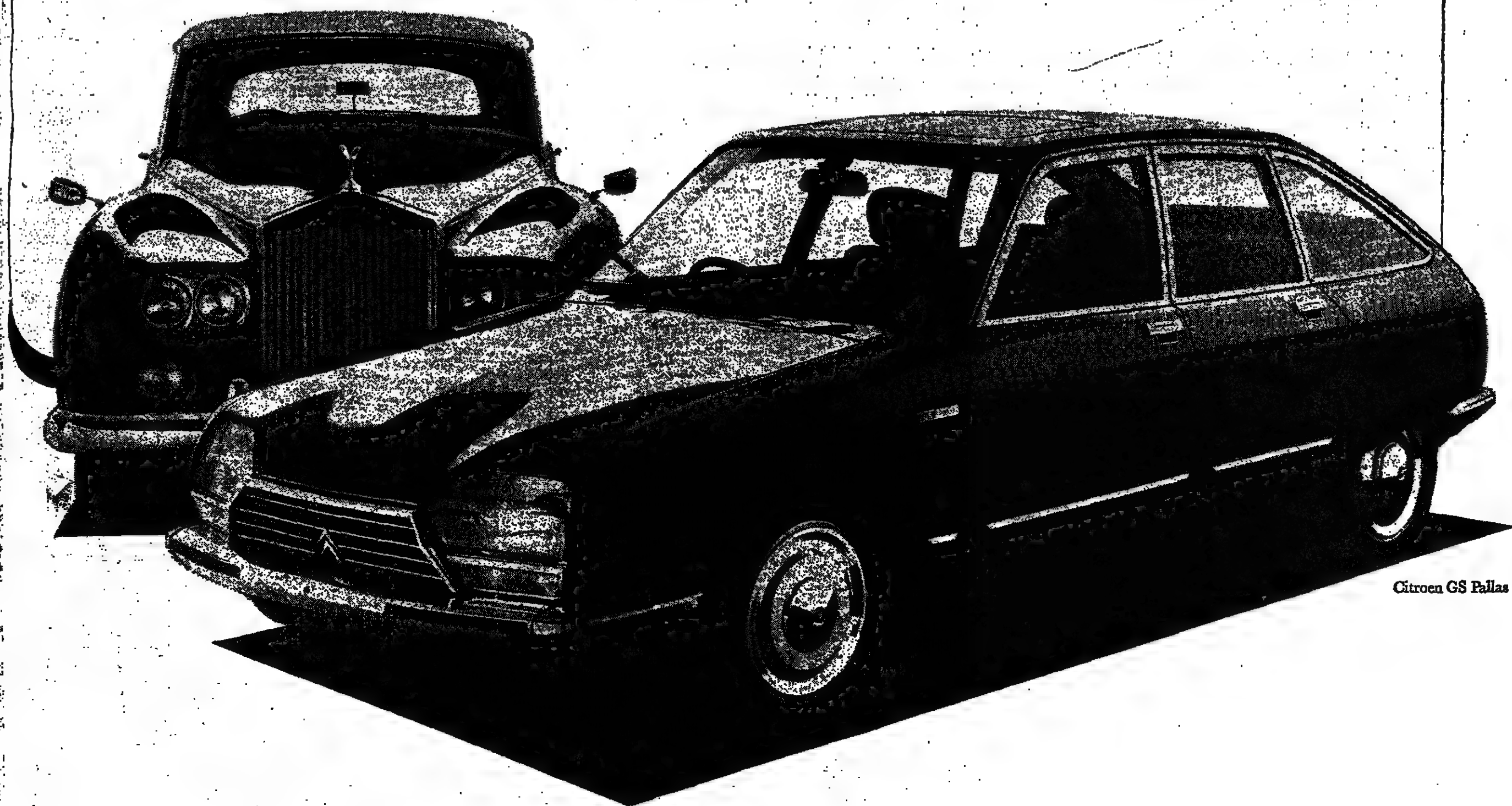
Less immediately obvious are the interior embellishments that positively position the Pallas in the luxury limousine class. The fully reclining front seats with headrests have a jersey cloth covering which is extended to the door panel upholstery. The rear seat has a foldaway central armrest. And the luxury pile fitted carpeting is also used to cushion the spacious rear parcel shelf.

The impressive Pallas dashboard layout includes warning lights to indicate front brake pad wear, battery charge, oil pressure, hydraulic pressure and choke. No less impressive in positioning the Pallas very definitely in the luxury class is the selection of standard fittings: heated rear window, electric screenwashers, two-speed wipers, hazard warning lights, electric clock, cigar lighter, trip mileage recorder, quartz halogen headlamps.

Worth remembering also is the fact that the 16.4 cu.ft. boot capacity of the Pallas is a totally rectangular box shape unimpeded by spare wheel or wheel arches. The aerodynamic GS design helps improve performance and reduce fuel consumption (41.55 mpg at a constant 55 mph). And in addition to its much praised smoothness, the hydropneumatic suspension also incorporates a self-levelling characteristic that maintains a constant height between the car body and the road surface despite any irregularities.

Apart from enjoying a ride that compares favourably with that of a Rolls-Royce, what makes a test drive in the Citroen GS Pallas so enticing is the possibility of discovering a saloon which could offer more in every respect than many cars you have hitherto considered more luxurious.

# INFLATION AND THE NEW TAX LAWS COULD DRIVE YOU INTO THE ROLLS ROYCE CLASS.



Citroen GS Pallas



Ronald Butt

# When one man's reactionary is another man's reformer

I had thought of giving the word "reactionary" as a present to my colleague Philip Howard for Easter, but there are limits even to professional generosity, so I am keeping it for myself. It is, after all, very much in the news. The "reactionary" nature of Mrs Thatcher and of the government she will lead if the unions bring this one down, is the ultimate concern of Mr Callaghan and Mr Healey in their efforts to cajole a stage three pay policy out of the union chiefs.

"If you don't let us have it," they have been telling Mr Jones, Mr Scanlon and the rest of that lugubrious band, "you will have to put up with a reactionary government under that reactionary lady, and you know what that means!" What precisely it does mean may not be specified, but such menaces are usually best kept in general terms.

Once upon a time, pointing over the Channel, British mothers would say to their naughty children: "Boney will get you if you don't behave," and but for Freud and child psychology, mothers a few decades ago would have threatened their recalcitrant infants with Hitler.

I do not know, supposing it were still in order to bamboozle the younger generation with stratagems of this sort, whom one would try to frighten them with Hitler, or Mr Breshnev, perhaps, or Mr Kossygin. The trouble is that they look more and more like frightened Greek Colonels might have filled the bill without offending anybody, but alas they are not available. Presidents Amin would be promising material if he had not, somehow, come to seem more like black comedy than black terror.

Besides, a really effective bogeyman needs a big country. China may spring to mind but it has an air of unsuitability these days, and anyway the names are difficult. Indeed, perhaps the only thing out of Peking just now that can be expected to raise a shiver of apprehension, at least among the children of the progressive classes, is the thought of the red carpet they are putting out for Mrs Thatcher. Which brings us back to the main point.

Child-centred bogeymen may be thin on the ground these days, now that menace, like everything else, has been collectivised: they are certainly out of fashion. But a bogeywoman to frighten the unions appears to be quite acceptable and, to judge by ministerial reports, working

Mrs Thatcher: the label has been stuck on her in what are called progressive circles by a curious sleight of logic, and it is kept there by no stronger adhesive than constant repetition

well. Mr Healey wants a new and "satisfactory" pay policy but what can he threaten the unions with if they do not play the game. There is not a great deal to hand—except Mrs Thatcher.

Some pedestrian minds may find the logic by which Labour ministers see, or say they see, Mrs Thatcher as their ultimate deterrent, somewhat elusive. They might even ask these ministers what precisely it is that the unions are supposed to be afraid of from Mrs Thatcher. To this the answer would be: "The same sort of confrontation as under Mr Heath."

The said pedestrian minds might then reply: "But surely it was precisely in order to lead to confrontation with the unions that the Conservative Party got rid of Mr Heath?" To this the ministerial response will not amount to much more than: "So what?" The truth is that the label "reactionary" has been stuck on Mrs Thatcher in what are called progressive circles by a curious sleight of logic, and it is kept there by no stronger adhesive than constant repetition.

But repetition can be a very strong adhesive. Yet, a serious difficulty is also now apparent. After all, the elections of Stetford plainly don't think she is reactionary, and as we live in a society in which, quite properly, the politicians must profess to respect for popular opinion, it is really rather awkward to contradict the elections of Stetford has provided the

evidence that, if the union leaders think one thing about Mrs Thatcher, the union rank-and-file, and particularly their wives, think another—which makes it harder to depict her as a kind of princess of darkness.

So what about that word "reactionary"? What exactly is it supposed to mean, apart from something bad? It is hard to say. It is a word that might have had the useful function of denoting the corruption of committed error, but it has been encrusted with the accretion of several centuries' disapproval. At the root of the trouble is the curious notion that history is the story of progress, and that progress is the broad trend of what has happened, and is happening, in the everlasting sunshine along the road of social improvement. When a course has been set, and is sanctified by progressive opinion, only a madman would ever think of challenging it, let alone cancelling a bit of it to start again.

I remember my history tutor, who was also an Anglo-Catholic clergyman, declaring in solemn tones: "When Pope Pius IX declared against progress, everyone said: 'The old boy must be dotty. He should go to Manchester and see for himself.'" He added: "Nowadays, we might not be so sure that he was dotty." And a few decades on, looking around some of us might well feel even less inclined to say that the old boy was dotty.

Yet the notion of fundamental progress, paid for it is true by a few disagreeable happen-

ings such as episodes of revolutionary terror, dies hard. It assumes that the sum of human happiness increases overall. It scorns the idea that good and evil, happiness and unhappiness, may be qualities that stay in roughly the same total balance in respect of each other, even if they take on different forms at different times. It assumes the ultimate rightness of progress as defined by progressives.

Above all, it assumes that progressives and progress can never take a wrong track, and that what they have done, no man must think of undoing. It is an interesting concept. It assumes that what we are doing now, provided it is different from what our parents and grandparents thought was right, must be progress. The other day a booklet written by a vicar and a doctor, and addressed to children, advised them against what is called nowadays sexual permissiveness. It actually said that certain sorts of behaviour were wrong.

Quick as a flash came the comment of Dr Robert Snowden, described as the head of the family planning research unit at Exeter University. The booklet, he said, was "reactionary, the sort of thing that you would expect from the 1940s."

There you have it. What was wrong. What is, must be right. But what will the rightness of the present be worth, when what will be in the future has come to pass? Will what is happening now

then seem wrong and reactionary? And just suppose that the people of the 1940s were in some ways more right, and even more happy, than we are. But that is as inconceivable an idea, it seems, as any belief in standards that have the force of absolutes. The only virtues are relative; the only certainty is that "progress" must generally point in the right direction, and "reaction" in the wrong.

Our social and moral notions are riddled with prejudices about unchallengeable progress, which seldom stop to ask if a basically wrong turn has been taken. I sometimes fear that a similar attitude has spilled over into politics. Indeed, it now seems to be as "reactionary" to question the consequences for human happiness of the political fashions of the progressives as it would be to challenge those of the conservative pill.

Yet I think that the political fashions may be questioned because, in the last resort, there can be a vote on them—which is more than is possible in connexion with many of the contrived determinants of social behaviour. Of course, it would be folly to say that there is no progress and no improvement.

But it is also illogical to refuse to consider whether in some fundamental ways we may have taken a politically wrong direction. As it happens, the behaviour of the present Government gives me the lie to its own propaganda. They have themselves, especially on the questions of economic policy, taken over many of the attitudes which were anathema when the Tories first began to preach them vigorously in 1974.

To the professional progressive, a challenge to his approved *faits accomplis* is reaction. Yet why should not policies sometimes be reversed? may not public opinion just now be in a mood to re-examine the relationship between the responsibilities of the individual and those of the state? Why should people not react, through their politicians, against the things that experience has taught them to dislike?

Among the Oxford Dictionary's definitions of (political) reaction is "reversion of feeling." That is perhaps what we are now seeing from the public. The question is for how long, if the electorate goes on reacting with Mrs Thatcher, her political foes can continue to call her reactionary, without doing damage to themselves.

The case for bringing barbiturates into the Misuse of Drugs Act

## A lethal drug the law has ignored for 40 years

'Withdrawal of barbiturates from a person who has been taking them to excess may bring fatal events'

In the past month a Home Office questionnaire on barbiturate abuse and illicit supplies has landed on the desks of drug squads up and down Britain. At the same time the Campaign on the Use and Restriction of Barbiturates (Curb) has announced that it will finish its work later this year.

The fruits of the questionnaire and Curb will help administrators at the Department of Health and the Home Office to decide what to do to combat the abuse and addiction of the family of drugs. For while heroin and other drugs have engaged the attention of public and Parliament, barbiturates remain outside the Misuse of Drugs Act.

Barbiturates are sedatives with a long and honourable history of medical use, but as long ago as the 1930s doctors in Britain were expressing concern as to whether or not they were addictive. In 1934 one expert wrote: "The actual danger to the public in this country at the present time from addiction is greater than that any other group of drugs even including the dangerous drugs which are controlled."

As the debate continued through the decades, British drug control legislation ignored the problem. Twice in the 1960s the Brain Committee examined drug addiction and in each of its reports it said that barbiturates should be closely watched.

In 1970 the Department of Health published a report on barbiturates, amphetamines, LSD and cannabis. The authors made no bones about the problem of addiction and its results. They wrote: "Abrupt withdrawal of barbiturates from a person who has been taking them to excess may bring a fatal sequence of events." Such events included serious fits and delirium.

In a state of addiction there would be confusion, defective judgement and loss of emotional control. The report concluded: "There is abundant evidence that doctors prescribe barbiturates in large quantities without very much regard for the risks." It was estimated that 10 per cent of prescriptions should be limited, but the idea of creating controls under criminal law were deplored on the ground that addicts would simply find a substitute.

The Misuse of Drugs Act, the following year, did not include barbiturates in its schedule. The drafters of the Act

did not feel they were in a position to do anything about the drugs because too much was being prescribed to make controls practicable. It was also felt that the wrath of the medical lobby would be very great if the law interfered again in its prescribing rights.

There is no shortage of barbiturates on the streets for those who want them. Doctors have been deceived by an apparently innocent patient claiming to be away from home without a necessary prescription. Chemists' shops are burgled. There have been cases where doctors have been willing, innocently, to prescribe barbiturates to addicts and found themselves subsequently besieged by demands from others for prescriptions. Refused to provide the prescriptions, they have been accused of being in the wrong. Some doctors are happy to see a useful drug classed like heroin, and so social workers are suspicious of further increases in numbers of controlled drugs.

The argument is still valid that a substitute will be found by the abusers. Yet if this case, abusers themselves argue that they would have found it by now since barbiturates can be expensive in the streets.

If there is legislation, then should be coupled with treatment. Barbiturate addicts do not have to be notified by doctors and little help is available for the addicts unless they are also taking narcotic. Yet barbiturates can be more lethal and generally destructive in addiction than heroin. In spite of its black reputation, Stewart Tank

## The rubbish talked about amenity

An occasional series on new words and new meanings

In Southampton, and no doubt other districts whose local authorities prefer dishonest gobbledegook to plain words, the official name for a corporation rubbish dump is a "civic amenity site."

Amenity comes directly from a Latin root, and means pleasantness, as in situation, climate, manners, or disposition. Concretely it means a pleasing feature, object, or characteristic. It can mean civility.

This harmless, hazy word has been taken up and debauched as a vague word, frequently in the plural. It is applied, understandably, to the more human and pleasurable aspects of a house, factory, town, and so on, as distinguished from the features of the house, factory, town, or so on, considered by itself. In its modern use it can also be used concretely, usually in the singular, to mean a particular advantageous or convenient feature of this kind. So people speak of social amenities and we understand roughly what they mean.

Amenity woodland is said to

be uneconomic, though that should not be taken as sufficient reason for not planting it. Amenity beds in National Health Service hospitals are for patients who want a little more privacy and luxury than are available in the public wards and are prepared to pay for them. Amenity centres probably means places with clubrooms, bars, cinemas, fruit machines, playing fields, and other more helpfully described by a less woolly word than amenity.

Amenity is a word much favoured by estate agents and other branches of the property business. It is the quality that makes a desirable residence desirable; a favoured locality favourably enchanting; and advertisements for unsellable alum properties that even the rats have deserted glow with promise.

Nevertheless, vague as well as vague though it is, amenity is an incongruous word to apply to a rubbish dump. Amenity, in its new coat of garb, is a misnomer that reeks of Double Think and Newspeak of 1984, only seven years to go. You will remember that the three slogans of the party in Oceania were: War is Peace; Freedom is Slavery; Ignorance is Strength. The propagandist who thought of those would have been gratified by their latest related slogan: Rubbish dumps are Civic Amenity Sites.

Philip Howard

## Mr Rafael moves to 'a steady job' at home

### Saying farewell to London, the Israeli with a plan for Middle East peace

An unusual envoy is moving to an unusual post: Mr Gideon Rafael, who says farewell as Israeli Ambassador this week, is to become adviser at the Foreign Ministry in Israel on "special projects".

Although he would not claim to have a private line to the Prime Minister, the fact that a new phase is opening in Middle East negotiations gives his appointment particular interest.

Mr Rafael, in his three years in London, has seen Anglo-Israeli relations improve from what he described as austere underdevelopment, at the time of the embargo on arms ship play to a prospering recovery. There is more agreement than disagreement between the two countries.

If his embassy has never been slow to get on the telephone to complain about what it regarded as misleading report or tendentious headline, Israel has on the whole had a good press. "It is easier to write leaders than lead write

ers", he observed. He has a deep feeling for Britain, as one of the last remaining citadels of civility.

"The first thing in achieving a peaceful accommodation (a new word in the Middle East vocabulary) is respect for the other side", he says. "I believe in Arab-Israeli reconciliation, taking account of the realities. The process of achieving it is a constant activity. It is no use going up and down like a combustion engine. It may be slow, it may be a long distance, but we have to proceed in a straight line."

We have to determine the destination. The Israel-Arab accommodation must be built on the assumption of live and let live. The time factor must play a constructive role and not a negative one. This is the essence of President Carter's new approach: to start with the end and work backwards from there. We have to ensure the road and obstacles and the means, otherwise it is self-improvisation."

The time was when Israeli leaders could discuss the whole Middle East situation without

mentioning the word Palestinian. (General Dayan did so in London recently), but Mr Rafael sounds rather mellow on the subject.

"At no time in our history have we ever denied Palestinian aspirations", Mr Rafael affirms. "From the Churchill partition in 1922, to the armistice agreements in 1948, to our acceptance of the need for a settlement today, we have been aware of the Palestinians' identity."

The crux of the matter, as he argues it, is the "extreme leadership" the Palestinians have always had to bear, from the very beginning of their political organisation.

If the Middle East vessel (to change the metaphor) is overloaded, by the weight given to the Palestinian claims, then neither their problems, nor the overall Israel-Arab conflict, will be solved. The vessel will capsize. The proportions have to be balanced.

Well, then, how? In a key statement on the subject, Mr Rafael has proposed an answer. Palestinian aspirations

can be fulfilled within the framework of an Israel-Jordan peace settlement. (He is speaking of the Palestinians as a whole, not the P.L.O.) This requires prior agreement on three major issues: the demarcation of boundaries; the nature of the relationship between the states and the peoples; the measures for keeping the peace and guaranteeing mutual security.

"Whatever solution will be devised for the expression of Palestinian identity, a prior agreement has to be reached with Jordan on these three basic issues", Mr Rafael maintains.

Is such a prescription ever going to meet with Palestinian approval? "To promote the cause of peace in the Middle East", Mr Rafael believes, "neither theological disputations nor magic diplomatic formulas will do. We must engage in new approaches."

He is a man of ideas—for instance, he favours joint projects in the Middle East on mineral exploitation, water development, power generation



Mr Gideon Rafael: respect for either side.

and agricultural planning, on the EEC model. He has also suggested a moratorium on weapon programmes; the money earned could be used for the resettlement of refugees and economic development.

Are such plans more than day-dreaming? In a farewell speech the Ambassador recalled the story of the beggar, a little Jewish town who was given the job of watching

for the Messiah because local people were so anxious not to miss his arrival. His was to sit at the top of a tree and keep a look-out. One he was asked by a friend, the work was like, "Well, pay's not much, but at it's a steady job."

David Span

Diplomatic Correspondent

## The Times Diary

Christopher and his golden goose

Life has been full lately of nice moral dilemmas. I had been looking forward to yesterday's literary lunch for Christopher Isherwood until I saw it denounced by "J.J.", the vituperative columnist of the *Sunday Express*.

Lying some of the notable people on the guest list, J.J. stormed: "Don't they give a damn about Isherwood's privacy for getting into bed with little boys? Or do they work on the principle that they will go anywhere for a free meal?"

What, then, should I do? Were I to go to the lunch, people might think it was just for the food. Yet if I stayed away they would regard it as a judgment on Isherwood's proclivity, on which I hold no firm attitude.

I decided that I valued my reputation as a progressive thinker more than I minded being thought of as a free-loader, so I went. Moreover, literary insiders had promised me that there would be some fireworks, an Awful Fuss. It was said that H. Montgomery Hyde, the chairman, was planning to weigh into Dame Rebecca West for a vicious review she wrote of Isherwood's new book in the *Sunday Telegraph*, in which she described it as "one long symphony of squall."

I wanted, to see whether the behaved women of a certain age who normally attend such literary lunches would pay their £5 fee to honour such a raucous work. Presumably readers of the *Sunday Telegraph* to a woman, they did not. The attendance was sparse compared with that for such safe authors as Harry Secombe, Lord Home and David Niven.

A few of the advertised celebrities failed to show, though whether as a result of J.J.'s stridentures it is impossible to say. The absentees were Eric Baginold, Jill Bennett and Dame Ninette de Valois, which gave the top table a masculine bias. The only star women who did arrive were Valerie Hobson and Lady Diana Cooper, who wore a sailor's cap (Hello!).

Hyde began his speech with a rude anecdote about somebody splintering his bottom on a wash basin. But as soon as he said of Dame Rebecca West that he had "the most profound respect" for her, I could tell that he was going to fulfil our expectations and put the report in which he did by recalling

her relationship with H. G. Wells. Isherwood, wearing a brown velvet suit, preferred to answer questions rather than to make a speech. He did so inconspicuously and briefly. His most memorable response was to a question about how he had liked the film *Cabaret*, based at third hand on his novel, *Goodbye to Berlin*.

"It's impossible," he declared, "to dislike such a very golden goose." Which I suppose applies equally to his new book, *Christopher and his Kind*, already climbing steadily up the best-seller lists.

**Clamming up**

A bit of voluntary self-censorship at the "open" Carter White House. The man who passed on to the world the President's crack that "some people are concerned every time Brezhnev sneezes," has "voluntarily decided" to cease quoting Carter. He is Senator Alan Cranston, the Democratic whip, and number two in the Senate, who

has used his training as a journalist to take full notes of the President's comments to Congressional leaders and relay them to reporters afterwards.

Officialdom applauded. After all, had not the President promised (but failed) to have a pool reporter sit in on Cabinet meetings and pass the word on? But after the Brezhnev crack, seen too late to have been gratuitously insensitive to the Soviet leader, somebody decided that enough is enough.

**Hide away**

Leather is very good to go to in, says Timothy Severin, and he should know because with his crew and helpers he built a leather boat. It is tied together with two miles of leather thong, and covered with 42 oxhides stitched with flax. It is shaped like a banana, smells bad, sails like a teak, and, for the purposes of reporting its position at sea, is to be classed as an airliner.

The improbable boat is the *Brendan*, which Severin and friends have already sailed from Ireland to Iceland. Next month they will rejoin it, aiming to complete their voyage by sailing the 2,000 miles from Iceland to North America. The intention is to show that Irish monks could have reached there in the eighth century, 700 years before Columbus.

Reporting in London yesterday on the voyage so far, Severin said that *Brendan's* offensive odour had diminished, and that it had proved unnecessary to renew the wool-grease waterproofing in six months of sailing. At one time it had been thought the crew might have to spread the bottom of the boat with butter every few days to keep the water out.

Moreover the crew of five had all volunteered to rejoin for the second leg, despite *Brendan's* propensity to induce the most extreme forms of sea-sickness. They had weathered one Force 8 gale with "one man injured, one violently sea-sick, and three terrified," but were looking forward to facing the even worse rigours of rounding the ice-ledge of southern Greenland.

This time they are taking clothes in the medieval material, greased wool, and food of the medieval type—dried whale meat, lamb and fish and smoked pork—rather than modern package foods which proved impossible to preserve from the sea on the last trip. Modern technology will help them, though, when they radio their position to airliners passing overhead to be passed on to air traffic control.

Meanwhile the only grounds for supposing that Irish monks made the voyage remain persist-

ent rumours to that effect, perpetuated in some 120 medieval manuscripts, and some "unimpressive scratches" discovered in Newfoundland.

I am charmed by the delicacy of language on the label on a suspender belt bought by a reader in Jerusalem: "Special for pregnant women and for ladies of somewhat rounder."

**Fighting fit**

One of the first public duties of Sir Douglas Black, the newly-elected president of the Royal College of Physicians, will be to launch a fresh assault on smoking. Sir Douglas, Scots-born and trained in the best Tannochbrae tradition, said yesterday that the College's forthcoming counterblast to tobacco would be like a Presbyterian minister's sermon on sin. "We are," he declared, "agin it."

Sir Douglas, whose presidency was announced on Monday after the College's curious election procedure—a mixture of the College of Cardinals and an introduction to freemasonry—described himself as a "non-palatable smoker." He often lights a pipe when nobody is looking.

But the new president's chief concern will be with morale in the health service, and the



thorny question of immigrant doctors—issues which his predecessor, Sir Cyril Clarke, worked hard to ameliorate, but which will not go away. Sir Cyril thought that health service morale was much higher than the press tended to suggest. Sir Douglas, who chooses his words carefully, declared: "It

is a mistake to look on the N as an ulcer of discontent in otherwise contented people. It is unfair to single the health service. Certainly some doctors have had their differentials eroded, just as the aircraft maintenance staff but there is an overall problem of resources."

The new president thought that too many people in health service were spending too much time in unproductive grumbling. Among the medical treatments available work is a particularly good one. Doctors may be suffering from the economic frost, the College itself is doing well. Their appeal for launched last October, has passed £1 million, and may soon have enough to the elegant Decimus B. house next door to their premises in Regent's Park, which, being the work of Denys Lasdun, bears a striking resemblance to the foyer of National Theatre.

Strange rites in Hammerston: an old school reunion. West London Observer reports that the former pupils enjoy a "dinner fit for a king" which the main course is "fourthousome" child can cure. Future reunions might thus be less well attended.

هكزامن التجميل





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## A DISEASE OF MONEY

We must be grateful to Professor Lord Kaldor for reviving in our columns the controversy over the relationship between changes in the money supply and changes in the general price level. The question is obviously of the utmost importance, for we believe, inflation is primarily a disease of money and only secondarily a disease of the economy or of society, the approach to the problem of inflation must be very different from that which will be advocated by those who agree with Professor Lord Kaldor that there is no evident causal relationship between changes in the money supply and inflation.

Those of our readers who were not familiar with the controversy and had only read Lord Kaldor's letters would have little idea of the strength of Professor Milton Friedman's case, though it is Professor Friedman whom Lord Kaldor is really seeking to confute. In particular they would have no idea that the quantity theory of money was taught by every major British economist to deal with the question of money from Locke, through Hume, Thornton, Ricardo, Jevons and Marshall, to Keynes himself. Even Keynes's *General Theory* (1936) is entitled *The General Theory of Employment, Interest and Money*, and Chapter 21 on *The Theory of Prices* is a monetary theory, if not an entirely satisfactory one. Elsewhere he described the quantity theory of money, to which he contributed so much, as "undoubtedly in accordance with the facts".

### General theory

The quantity theory of money is indeed based on the more general theory of supply and demand, the rudiments of which have been understood in every trading society. It treats money as a commodity open to exchange with other commodities. If the quantity of such a commodity is increased its value expressed in terms of other commodities will fall. Locke (1692) drew the contrast between a change in the general price level caused by a change in the supply of money, and a change in a particular price caused by a change in the supply of a particular commodity.

At this point the quantity theory of money is not radically different from a quantity theory of wheat. To assert that an increase in the supply of money will have no effect, or no causal effect, on the purchasing power of money is the same as to assert that an increase in the supply of wheat will have no effect, or no causal effect, on the price of wheat. It is reasonable to qualify the quantity theory of money by a number of ways, but to deny outright the quantity theory of money involves the same bold intellectual defiance of the observed facts as to deny that good harvests tend to reduce the price of wheat.

We have therefore a strongly developed classical theory, in which the contributions of Marshall and Keynes have in relatively modern times been particularly notable. Beyond the theory there has been empirical observation. It was first suggested in 1863 by Jevons that there was a consistent time lag of between one and two years between an increase in the money supply and an increase in prices. The existence of a time lag, or rather of two time lags—one the lag between an increase in the money supply and an increase in economic activity and another and longer one, between an increase in the money supply and an increase in prices—had first been observed by Hume in 1752. Professor Friedman independently discovered or rediscovered the time lag postulated by Jevons, showed that it was variable in different circumstances of expectation and showed that it could be traced

throughout the modern monetary history of the United States. Neither Friedman nor any other sane economist suggests that there is a simple, perfectly regular and automatic relationship between money supply and prices. Factors of expectation and liquidity preference (or velocity) certainly influence the time lag. The central assertion is that changes in the supply of money necessarily change the value of money; if the liquidity preference is constant, or returns to its original level, the change will be exactly proportionate, but the time lag, though tending to approximate to the years, will be variable. If this claim is true, then an independent control of the money supply, as by an independent central bank, is much the most powerful instrument of control of inflation, and without some effective control of the money supply, inflation is inevitable.

The critics have concentrated on two possible lines of attack. One is to show that the statistical work done by Professor Friedman and his school does not prove what it sets out to prove, and the other is to raise questions about the mechanism by which changes in the money supply are translated into changes in prices. The short answer to the second point is that an increase in the money supply tends to move prices significantly when it waters circulation, that is when it is spent. Government spending, not covered by revenue or borrowing, is the most immediate way of putting extra money into circulation.

Lord Kaldor refers to the latest of the statistical challenges. The article by Mr Roger Tarling and Mr Frank Wilkinson in the *March Cambridge Economic Policy Review* does not however challenge the significant correlation between money supply and inflation in Britain in recent years, but argues that the correlation is dependent on the period 1973-75 and accounts for the correlation in that period on other grounds. "As the results are significant for the whole fifteen years taken together only when 1973-75 are included, the rest of this article will examine events in those years, to explain the real reasons for the acceleration of inflation which then took place."

### Lines of attack

Here one should comment on the criticisms that have been made of Professor Mills for an alleged failure to distinguish between correlation and causality. Nobody thinks that correlation proves causality; correlation is however a test of a causal theory, and high correlation between two factors calls for explanation, which may be of four kinds, causal by either factor, having a common cause, or coincidental. In one correspondent's instance of sunrise and the delivery of *The Times*, the high correlation is indeed obviously explained by causality.

The *Times* does not cause the sun to rise, but sunrise does determine the approximate time of delivery of a morning newspaper. The correlation of money supply and inflation in individual years in the 1970s has been closer than it was during the 1960s. One it takes the world money supply in the 1960s the rate of inflation of prices, though broadly in line with the rate of increase in the money supply, was less irregular. Between 1960 and 1969 inflation moved from 1 per cent to 5 per cent, following an earlier growth of money supply from around 2 to 8 per cent, very much as a monetarist would expect, but more smoothly. From 1969, the peaks of inflation have followed the sharper movements in the global money supply (as a weighted sum of eleven industrial countries) with the expected lag of approximately two years. It may be that

in a period of gradual inflation prices tend to be administered steadily upwards in line with the general movement of money supply, but smooth out moderate changes. In a period of steeper inflation the rates of change are too sharp to be smoothed out.

At any rate the Tarling and Wilkinson article does not question that the correlation of the rate of inflation and changes in the money supply has in the 1970s been a close one. They merely attribute it to special factors, a special period. Professor Friedman has had to defend himself against a multitude of similar statistical attacks and it is fair to say that these attacks have not overturned his theory. Indeed the whole of economic history is in his favour. Whenever and wherever there has been a rapid increase in the money supply, over and above the rate of growth of production, it has been followed by a rapid increase in prices. Stable prices over long periods have been associated with a stable, or gradually growing, supply of money. The quantity theory of money is based on common sense and common observation, has been adopted and elaborated by the finest intellects to consider economic theory, and is consistent with all the facts. Only those who expect perfect consistency in short runs of imperfect statistics can bring instances to the contrary.

Lord Kaldor puts forward what seems to be an alternative theory of money. He believes that the money supply varies according to the demands of trade. This leaves open the question of what determines the demands of trade, or why, if the money supply is merely responsive to the demands of trade, the demands of trade themselves should not in money terms become infinite. In British postwar history the responsive view of money supply, that it should be allowed to reach the level which is wanted, has however, played an important part in policy.

### Special factors

The effect of the responsive theory on policy can be seen by contrasting the experience since the war of those countries with independent central banks regulating the money supply as an independent function and those with dependent central banks regulating the money supply in response to the supposed needs of government. The United States, Germany and Switzerland have independent central banks. Britain, France and Italy have dependent central banks. The inflationary experience of the dependent central bank countries has consistently been worse, and in the 1970s has been very much worse, than the experience of the countries with independent central banks; in recent years the experience of unemployment has been at least equally bad. As a basis of policy the responsive theory of money supply has proved to be highly inflationary. Indeed the responsive theory comes down to saying that if inflation exists you have to finance more of it.

A final point may be made. It has been argued that the high correlation between rising money and rising prices is merely the consequence of both being on a rising trend. In fact the excess money supply fell from 22.2 per cent in 1973 to 12.4 per cent in 1974; price inflation fell from 24.2 per cent in 1973 to 16.5 per cent in 1974. A reduction of 9.8 per cent in excess money supply was followed two years later by a reduction of 7.7 per cent in the inflation rate of retail prices. This prediction of a major change of trend—a prediction available before any agreement on incomes policy—shows that events continue to be reasonably consistent with the expectations of monetary theory.

However, in fairness to those responsible for the AS (D) it should be made plain that the alignment does not affect the scheduled "area" and has been the subject of public local inquiries which received evidence on the problems of Magiovinum.

We understand that consideration is being given to the scale of archaeological excavation that may be arranged before and during roadwork; and that those responsible for the present proposals believe that they should not be detrimental to the archaeological treasure.

Yours faithfully,  
CAMPBELL OF ESKAN,  
Chairman,  
Milton Keynes Development Corporation,  
Wavendon Tower,  
Wavendon,  
Milton Keynes,  
Buckinghamshire.  
March 30.

## Competition in off-course betting

From the Chairman of the Horserace Totalisator Board

Sir, In his article in *The Times* on April 2 Mr Marcel Berlins suggests that if the Tote were to have a series of off-course cash betting there might be a temptation to give worse odds. This is a misunderstanding. Under the Tote's scheme private bookmakers would remain on-course, making the starting prices and board prices on which punters could and would continue to bet in the cash betting shops and nothing the Tote proposes to do would stop them. We have also said that we would have no objection to off-course credit betting remaining in private hands. This would be an additional guarantee against the Tote giving worse SP odds than those given at present. We have said, too, that all the current variety of bets would be maintained and would be added to as ingenuity suggests and the punter requires.

Incidentally, it is rubbish to say that there is no competition between bookmakers in cash betting shops, except in ante-post betting. All make their bets on the same board prices and starting prices provided by Stiel. You cannot shop around before the Tote is given a monopoly where the great bulk of betting is. Another fallacy in Mr Berlins's article is that he thinks the Tote should prove that totalisator dividends are better than SP odds before the Tote is given a monopoly of off-course cash betting. The one has nothing to do with the other. The totalisator runs pools and cannot in advance say what odds individuals will receive. That depends on the amount of money in a given pool and the number of winners. This is quite distinct from bookmaking where the bookmaker is able at all times to know what money is laid on each horse and to adjust his odds accordingly.

The Tote was set up in 1928 as one device to raise more money for racing. It is the Tote's case that the legalisation of cash betting shops in 1961 frustrated this aim. The Tote was not allowed to open cash betting shops taking bets at SP as well as Tote dividends until 1972. In the meanwhile the bookmakers were able to set up 14,500 betting shops and, as this is traditionally almost entirely an SP minded country, the Tote, unable to compete, lost most of its market to the bookmakers.

Even now the Tote still has to establish to the magistrates that there is a shortage of betting facilities in an area before being granted a licence to open a cash betting shop offering SP and Tote dividends. Consequently, as the market had already been flooded by legal bookmakers' shops when it was illegal for the Tote to open them, only a few such applications have been granted. We have had, out of our 125 now profitable cash betting shops, it is therefore ridiculous to speak as though the Tote has in some way failed in competing with the private bookmakers because it was forbidden by law to do so.

As in France, Australia, the United States, Italy, Japan, Canada, and West Germany similar organisations to the Tote run efficiently all off-course betting, and in some cases on-course betting as well, why should there be any difficulty here? In all these countries the racing industry is a substantial beneficiary, and in France alone the racing industry has received £73m in the last full year from the Pari-Mutuel whereas in Britain the bookmakers will pay a mere £2.7m to the Levy Board for the benefit of horseracing.

Only in Britain could it be seriously argued that such an absurd state of affairs should be allowed to continue.

Yours faithfully,  
WOODROW WYATT, Chairman,  
Horserace Totalisator Board,  
Tote House,  
8-10 New Bridge Street, EC4.  
April 6.

## Magiovinum

From Lord Campbell of Eskan

Sir, In response to the thoughtful letter (March 30) about Magiovinum from the Buckinghamshire Archaeological Society, I want to make it clear that this development corporation has no authority over the archaeological excavation that may be arranged before and during roadwork; and that those responsible for the present proposals believe that they should not be detrimental to the archaeological treasure.

Yours faithfully,  
CAMPBELL OF ESKAN,  
Chairman,  
Milton Keynes Development Corporation,  
Wavendon Tower,  
Wavendon,  
Milton Keynes,  
Buckinghamshire.  
March 30.

## Short back and sides

From Miss Stella Cansino

Sir, Having read Colonel R. D. Sherbrooke-Walker's letter in *The Times* today, being a young woman with "short back and sides", I would gladly grow my hair if I could be assured that someone would, occasionally, open doors for me and especially give me his seat, although I have my doubts that this would work in London!

Yours, etc.  
STELLA CANSINO,  
117a Hamilton Terrace, NW8.  
March 30.

## The film 'Jesus of Nazareth'

From Mrs J. Choyle

Sir, Will your TV critic Alan Coren look at another point of view? I was one of a group of village women at a meeting last night (April 4) when, in an interval, talk turned to the film *Jesus of Nazareth*. Without exception there was high praise for the production. All had found it moving, some said it explained things beautifully, some had found that their children watched it to the end without faltering, everyone was eager to select particular characters or incidents which in her view made the film outstanding; and all of us hoped to be able to see the second part on Easter Day.

In this instance I found your critic irritatingly clever; or cleverly irritating, which he may have intended. It seemed uncritical in him, for example, not to have noticed one or two of the extremely sensitive touches of the raising of Jesus's daughter ceased to become a rather clinical piece when the child, awakening, was folded into Jesus's arms; the approach of Judas to Jesus was a masterly comment on the reluctance of good men to face the dilemma of evil.

But above all your critic's thesis on the two Jesus Christs will not bear examination, in my opinion, as a criterion of failure. It is with the incomprehensible of the two Christs that Christians wrestle all their lives. This film set out, presumably, only to tell in pictures the Gospel story (and it did so with quite outstanding success for viewers in this village if not elsewhere). Theologians themselves, and those who may be one, surely first acknowledge that story's stark and almost forbidding simplicity before they engage mind and spirit in its interpretation.

Yours faithfully,  
JAN CHOYLE,  
Rosedale,  
East Farndon,  
Market Harborough,  
Leicestershire.  
April 5.

From Mr D. S. McGovern

Sir, The Monday review by Alan Coren of the television film, *Jesus of Nazareth*, was an unkind and ungenerous piece of criticism. Apparently having conceived a scathing prejudice towards the film before he had even seen it, he then proceeded unashamedly to state it in his opening sentence: "The question was never whether Jesus of Nazareth was going to fail: the question was by how far it was going to fail, and why it was going to fail." The remainder of the review told us with much style and little substance how his prejudices were confirmed in the viewing.

The opposition which Mr Coren posits between "the Christ of Gospel record and the developed Christ of imagination" does not necessarily apply to everyone. For myself, at least, it does not. It is difficult to conceive of an imagined Christ which is not firmly rooted in Gospel record, whatever one's beliefs—these and a very few others are the only records we have. Until Mr Coren can demonstrate this sense of opposition is something widespread, it is worthless as a critical criterion. Moreover, there is an entire lack of proportion in the assertion that this opposition is more difficult to reconcile in one's mind than that of Christ's divinity and humanity. For nineteen hundred years men have struggled with the latter, but I know of no one apart from Mr Coren who has written of the former.

Mr Coren states that it is not that Zeffirelli reduced Christ's divinity to a mere "mythic force", the "poetry of his humanity". Robert Powell's Jesus was "bereft of mythic force"—but since "mythic force" is by definition something

akin to divinity, it appears that Mr Coren has contradicted himself.

The qualities which Mr Coren blames Robert Powell for not having—rhetoric, power, authority, eloquence, magic—are not necessarily qualities which everyone expects. If one happens to believe that Christ is who he said he was, then one may take it for granted that divinity possesses these qualities. The truly remarkable thing about Christ from this point of view becomes his very ordinariness, not his "mythic force" which had been amply demonstrated to the Jews for several centuries already. Whether or not it is true, a doctrine that God became an ordinary man is far more astonishing than a doctrine that God became an extraordinary superman; hence the rather peculiar veneration which some Christians practise of very ordinary aspects of Jesus's person—the Sacred Heart, the Five Wounds, and the like. There is, however, no church that I know of dedicated to the "mythic force". If on the other hand one does not happen to believe in Christ's divinity, then it follows that one may find more interest in what is or seems to be unusual in him. In any event Mr Coren's own personal expectations of what Christ should be like are scarcely standards by which to condemn the film.

Again Mr Coren begins to contradict himself by complaining that the presentation was not "culturally authentic" when in the next paragraph he found fault with the film for its "concentrating upon the man in his historical context". He carps also at the "Hollywood biblical pishitushery" of the results, but condemns the "pishitushery" of Hollywood hacks populating the cast. I found this element kept rather surprisingly to a minimum.

My own merely personal impressions were that the film struck a rather original balance between cultural authenticity and "pishitushery". Robert Powell's Jesus "was a very ordinary man indeed" and it is vastly to Mr Powell's credit that he had the insight to do this rather than—which would have been much easier—to portray him in a pseudo-romantic light more accessible to those seeking a Superman. In and through this ordinariness Mr Powell conveyed great dignity, depth, and love; just as some maintain that in and through Jesus's humanity his divinity was revealed, and the indescribable and ineffable that divinity. "Rising personal magnetism, power, authority, eloquence, magic..." these being more to the *Saint of Paradise* List.

Last, Mr Coren claps his hands and WASH tropes issuing from the rabbinical lip. "Christ was not an Englishman," he sneers with dull literal-mindedness. A singular failure of imagination on the part of one who has made much of the developed Christ of the imagination. Presumably Mr Coren also falls against Shakespeare when Julius Caesar does not speak Latin in King Lear to prove Welsh. Personally I am content to be a little less zealous and to reflect that if other ages could present scriptural narrative in the trappings of their own time and tastes, then surely ours may do the same.

Yours very truly,  
D. S. MCGOVERN,  
68 Clancary Road,  
Fulham, SW6.

From Mr David Burton

Sir, I was interested to see that a book has been produced to go with the television film, *Jesus of Nazareth*. May I point out that there is already a very good book on the subject? It is also a best seller, the Bible.

Yours faithfully,  
DAVID BURTON,  
Keston, Kent.

## Relationship between money supply and inflation

From Dr Norman Blackwell

Sir, Professor Mills in his letter to-day (April 4) is unfortunately mistaken in applying biological standards to economic statistics.

Whereas in the Natural Sciences any significant correlation in one's data is remarkable, in economics—particularly time series data—the interdependence is so great that almost any two variables picked at random will move together sufficiently to be significant in correlation. Thus Professor Mills calculates a coefficient of  $r=0.85$  between excess money supply and lagged inflation; for comparison I have calculated the correlation between the increase in base wage rates and inflation over the same period and with the same lag.

Changes in Base Wage Rates	Lagged Inflation
1965 4.3	2.5 1967
1966 4.6	4.7 1968
1967 4.4	5.4 1969
1968 6.5	6.4 1970
1969 5.2	9.4 1971
1970 9.9	7.1 1972
1971 12.9	9.2 1973
1972 13.8	16.1 1974
1973 13.7	24.2 1975

While I have no particular reason for suggesting that "cost push" inflation would require prices to follow wages with a two year lag, the coefficient of  $r=0.78$  is only marginally less than Professor Mills's above. In fact I could undoubtedly find some other set of variables which would correlate by chance, do better than his. I would not, however, regard this as proving the supremacy of a cost push model of inflation.

The moral is that one should be extremely cautious in inferring economic causality from such simple regressions. While no economist would dispute that money supply will approximately move with inflation over the long run, the critical issue is whether the relationship is stable enough in the short run to substantiate the monetarist claim that excess money supply is always the only cause of inflation—so that control of the money supply is by itself sufficient to cure this particular economic ill. As Professor Kaldor notes (March 31) there is much evidence to suggest this claim is not generally true.

Yours sincerely,  
NORMAN R. BLACKWELL,  
8 Worcester Road, SW19.  
April 4.

From Mr Martin R. Weale

Sir, I would like to add a note of caution to the conclusions Professor Mills draws today (April 4) concerning the effects of changes in the money supply on the rate of inflation. For your convenience I reproduce the figures here, which Professor Mills attributes to you.

Excess money supply	Increase in prices
1965 4.7	2.5 1967
1966 1.9	4.7 1968
1967 7.8	5.4 1969
1968 4.0	6.4 1970
1969 5.2	9.4 1971
1970 9.9	7.1 1972
1971 11.4	9.2 1973
1972 23.4	16.1 1974
1973 22.2	24.2 1975

Professor Mills states that  $r=0.848$ , and that the probability of this occurring by chance is less than one in a hundred. However, his analysis seems to overlook certain points. First, the correlation between 1965 and 1966, 1967 and 1968, 1968 and 1969, 1969 and 1970, and 1972 and 1973, that is in five out of the eight possible cases, the change in the rate of growth of the money supply is in an opposite direction to the change in the inflation rate.

While I would not suggest that monetary expansion cures inflation, something does appear to be wrong. Both the money supply figures, and the rate of inflation figures have a clearly rising trend. In such a case a simple regression will misleadingly suggest a close relationship. Perhaps a more reliable result is obtained if an independent time trend is introduced, for one is then able to see the relationship between the rate of growth of the money stock, and the rate of inflation, without interference of an exogenous rise in both over time. If this is done it is discovered that a 1 per cent change in the money stock tends to occur with a change in the rate of inflation of 0.34 per cent two years later, but that there is a chance of between one in four and one in ten, that the change in the rate of inflation is 0.

On the basis of this evidence I do not claim that the rate of growth of the money supply has no effect on the rate of inflation whatsoever, but your figures cannot be said to establish the point.

Yours faithfully,  
MARTIN R. WEALE,  
5 Windmill Hill,  
Hampstead, NW3.

## No Haile Sellassie treasure abroad

From Crown Prince Asfa Wossen Haile Sellassie

Sir, Ever since my late father, Emperor Haile Sellassie, was deposed by the present Marxist-Leninist (their own description) military regime (who have, within two years, murdered three heads of state, two of them appointed by themselves), the world press, radio, and television have made much of the alleged billions of dollars, francs, or pounds which my father was supposed to have deposited in Switzerland to the great detriment of the Ethiopian people. Even serious organs of the press have indulged in the reckless pursuit, and the figures quoted (always without the slightest proof or evidence—yet never qualified by doubt or hesitation) have ranged between four and six thousand million dollars (sic). One French paper even quoted Swiss bankers as asking the late Emperor to withhold further deposits of gold, as their vaults were brimming over with his precious metal. I am told that a month or two ago a major German television news broadcast a similar programme. More recently, an Italian paper, amidst a welter of other factual inaccuracies, has referred to an accord between myself and the present Ethiopian régime to divide the billions allegedly deposited by my late father in Switzerland. I need hardly add that all this is utterly untrue.

Although I know all these allegations to be mendacious and slanderous of the memory of a great man, I have so far kept silent, as I thought that to make the most detailed investigations.

These searches and inquiries, minute, accurate, widespread, and probing, have now been completed—thanks to the kind help of the British, Swiss, and other banking authorities. No avenue of approach, direct or indirect, has been neglected; and I am now in a position to state, categorically and authoritatively, that not a single penny, cent, or franc has been located anywhere.

I trust that this statement, supported by ample facts and conclusive evidence, will silence the slanderous and allow my tormented family to live in peace.

Yours faithfully,  
ASFA WOSSEN HAILE  
SELLASSIE, Crown Prince of Ethiopia,  
London.  
April 5.

## Annan on broadcasting

From the Managing Director of Capital Radio

Sir, Gerald Nethercott (April 1), former Manager of BBC Radio Nottingham, was right when he said (*The Times*, April 1) that Annan's suggestion of having off local BBC radio from its parent organisation must be opposed tooth and nail. Nowhere did the Annan committee grasp the basic fact that "Big is Beautiful" where local radio is concerned—be it BBC or independent, engineering or programming.

A popular radio station with a large audience drawn to it by pop (or "pop and prattle" if you must) has, for example, an ability to educate far beyond anything that could be achieved by a station catering exclusively to minority interests. We at Capital Radio can—and do—use that ability to introduce our listeners to, for example, classical music. The result is that more Londoners listen to *The Collection*, our classical music programme, than to any classical music programme on Radio 3.

The Annan report conceded that we appealed to a far wider audience than our critics gave us credit for. We also cover a far wider range of topics—never touched upon by Annan—such as qualitative research has shown us exactly what our audiences do and do not want. To give an audience a half hour programme on, say, dyslexia would be an open invitation to switch off on any wave length. To feed a reference to dyslexia into a programme is to bring the problem to the attention of a vast audience.

What is more, successful ILR stations, and seven are already the most popular in their communities, are better able to serve their audiences by seeking from our listeners a positive response to the social needs of the area we can help the lonely, the elderly, the handicapped, and the school leaver in search of a job, for we have an enormously large body of people to call upon—and to help them we do, not only for their understanding but also for their active help.

To imagine that a station catering for minority interests could achieve any of this is pie in the sky and pie cut up in unsatisfactory small portions. Yours faithfully,  
JOHN WHITNEY,  
Managing Director,  
Capital Radio,  
Euston Tower, NW1  
April 4.

## Fragile eggshells

From Mrs Stella Palmer

Sir, How reassuring to be told by the Poultry Research Centre that the shells of modern eggs are as good as they were 40 years ago! (report by your Agricultural Correspondent on Saturday, April 2). The reason they break so easily is that they are too fresh when we buy them.

Yet I am old enough to remember when the farmer's wife brought baskets of eggs to market travelling in a jolting cart over unmade roads. The baskets were at least 10 to 12 inches deep and the pressure of weight on the bottom layer must have been considerable. Some of the eggs were probably a weak old but some would have been collected that morning.

With all respect to the scientists, the results of their 10 years' research only confirms my in admiration for the old-fashioned hen. I am, Sir, yours truly,  
STELLA F. PALMER,  
8 Turnbull Road,  
Chichester,  
Sussex.  
April 3.

## TURKEY'S OVERDUE ELECTION

The news that Turkey's general election is to be held in June rather than October will be generally welcomed by foreign governments that have important dealings with Turkey—particularly those of Greece, Cyprus and the United States—and probably also by the majority of the Turkish public. The parliament elected in October 1973 has suffered throughout its life from the lack of any coherent majority. The largest party in it is the Republican People's Party led by Mr Bulent Ecevit, of broadly social-democratic tint, whose "victory" in the 1973 election was widely hailed as a milestone in Turkey's history. But with only 186 seats out of 450 the RPP was not in a position to form a strong government. The government which it did form in early 1974 was a thoroughly uneasy coalition with the Islamic "National Salvation Party".

The major achievement (for such it was certainly considered in Turkey) of the Ecevit Government was the Cyprus "peace operation" of July-August 1974. Mr Ecevit thought he could exploit this to force new elections in which he would win an overall majority. This proved a grave miscalculation, for in Turkey the power of dissolution

is vested solely in parliament itself, and within parliament a majority emerged which was united in its resolve to prevent Mr Ecevit achieving his aims, although on virtually nothing else. This is the majority, led by Mr Demirel and his (conservative) Justice Party, which has ruled Turkey for the past two years. It too includes the NSP as well as two other right-of-centre parties and the small but bellicose National Action Party led by Colonel Turgut Ersoy.

The Demirel Government has had some success in stimulating industrial investment, the credit for which is bitterly disputed between Mr Demirel himself and Mr Erbakan, the NSP leader, who controls the ministry of industry. But to finance her trade deficit Turkey has had to exhaust all available credit, and in the past three months her reserves have fallen dramatically. Mr Demirel would like to seek a solution in closer integration with the European Community, but Mr Erbakan objects to this on ideological grounds, and relations have in any case been soured by the laying-off of Turkish workers in Europe during the recession, by Turkish jealousy of Greece, and by the Cyprus issue. The latter issue has also bedevilled Turkey's

relations with the United States, thus virtually cutting off her main source of credit for arms purchases. But again it is the Government's internal divisions (and especially Mr Erbakan's intransigence) which have done most to make progress towards a Cyprus settlement impossible.

Perhaps most serious of all has been the growth of political violence, first on university campuses but lately also in the countryside and small towns. A hundred and fifty people have been reported killed (twenty of them last month) and nearly four thousand injured since Mr Demirel took office. Mr Demirel has blamed Mr Ecevit, accusing him of encouraging left-wing extremists in order to prove that the country is ungovernable without him. Mr Ecevit replies that the main aggressors are to be found in the youth movement of Colonel Turkey's party, and a recent report by the NSP Minister of the Interior at least partly bears him out. The first thing to hope, therefore, is that the elections do in fact take place without large-scale bloodshed and that Turkey is able to maintain her place beside India as one of the few developing countries where democracy can work.



## Villagers can still have their game of cricket

**Miller v Jackson and Another**  
Before Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Geoffrey Lane and Lord Justice Croomey.

The playing of cricket on a ground used by the village club for over 70 years should not be stopped by granting to the owners of an adjoining house on behalf of the club a discretionary remedy of an injunction although they had established that balls hit for six and falling on their house and garden had caused damage in the past and might do so in the future. In modern conditions, the majority of the court decided, the interest of the public should prevail over that of the individual.

The Court of Appeal, Lord Justice Geoffrey Lane dissenting, so held in reserved judgments in allowing an appeal by Mr R. Jackson and Mr J. J. Croomey, on their own behalf and on behalf of all other members of Linz Cricket Club, near Burnopfield, Co. Durham, from Mr Justice Keeble's decision in *Miller v Jackson* (1967) 1 W.L.R. 1598, 1602, 1603, 1604, 1605, 1606, 1607, 1608, 1609, 1610, 1611, 1612, 1613, 1614, 1615, 1616, 1617, 1618, 1619, 1620, 1621, 1622, 1623, 1624, 1625, 1626, 1627, 1628, 1629, 1630, 1631, 1632, 1633, 1634, 1635, 1636, 1637, 1638, 1639, 1640, 1641, 1642, 1643, 1644, 1645, 1646, 1647, 1648, 1649, 1650, 1651, 1652, 1653, 1654, 1655, 1656, 1657, 1658, 1659, 1660, 1661, 1662, 1663, 1664, 1665, 1666, 1667, 1668, 1669, 1670, 1671, 1672, 1673, 1674, 1675, 1676, 1677, 1678, 1679, 1680, 1681, 1682, 1683, 1684, 1685, 1686, 1687, 1688, 1689, 1690, 1691, 1692, 1693, 1694, 1695, 1696, 1697, 1698, 1699, 1700, 1701, 1702, 1703, 1704, 1705, 1706, 1707, 1708, 1709, 1710, 1711, 1712, 1713, 1714, 1715, 1716, 1717, 1718, 1719, 1720, 1721, 1722, 1723, 1724, 1725, 1726, 1727, 1728, 1729, 1730, 1731, 1732, 1733, 1734, 1735, 1736, 1737, 1738, 1739, 1740, 1741, 1742, 1743, 1744, 1745, 1746, 1747, 1748, 1749, 1750, 1751, 1752, 1753, 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## Mr Healey hints at further boost for economy in autumn

By Malcolm Brown

Mr Healey, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, told industrial and trade union leaders yesterday that the way may be open to him later in the year to give a fresh stimulus to the economy. Reinforcing the statement which he made to the House of Commons at the end of the fourth day of the Budget debate on Monday, Mr Healey said at a meeting of the National Economic Development Council that he needed another two or three months to judge the trends in the Public Sector Borrowing Requirement, the balance of payments figures (which had been fluctuating widely over the past four months), and to resolve the uncertainty over wage costs.

In the light of those judgments he would then be able to give serious thought to the question of an additional stimulus.

Commenting on the Chancellor's remarks last night, Sir Ronald McIntosh, director general of the National Economic Development Office said: "He left me with the im-

pression he was thinking about the autumn."

Industrial leaders at yesterday's meeting told the Government and trade union members of the NEDC that the significant fall in interest rates over the last few months would give a strong impetus to investment. But it was stressed that this investment would be largely in capital-intensive industries such as chemicals, so there was little hope that any serious inroads would be made into the unemployment problem as a result.

The trade union members of the council noted this and said they would nevertheless continue to give their strong support to a programme for investment in line with the requirements of the industrial strategy. However, the TUC did feel disappointed by the Government's inability to give a bigger stimulus to the economy in the Budget. They gave a warning also that any increases in prices resulting from the Budget could cause "acute difficulties" in the forthcoming discussions on pay policy.

## Budget caution leaves room for manoeuvre

By David Blake

Economics Correspondent

The Chancellor's statement is bound to add to speculation that he believes that his Budget of last week leaves him with some significant room for further reflation later in the year.

In his winding up speech on the Budget debate on Monday night he stressed that in framing his cuts of £2,300m in income tax he had tried to err on the cautious side. In particular, he had been forced to leave a margin of safety for the uncertainties caused by the prospects for pay policy talks, and the wild fluctuations which have been occurring in the money market.

The picture on the pay and trade front ought to be much clearer in a few months time. There is more uncertainty about the forecast for the Public Sector Borrowing Requirement, which the Chancellor is now suggesting will be around £8,500m in the financial year 1977-78. This prediction would suggest that the Chancellor has saved himself £200m of allowable tax concessions before he starts risking exceeding the ceiling of £8,700m imposed by the International Monetary Fund.

But the forecast made at the time of the Budget is susceptible to a large error, as all forecasts of PSBR. Most estimates suggest that it could be £2,000m out in either direction.

This year's total borrowing by the Government is now expected to be around £8,800m compared with £11,200m forecast at the time of the cuts last December. One possible interpretation of this downward revision would be that the Treasury had realised that in its talks with the IMF it would come under pressure for cuts and that it therefore started out with a high forecast to improve its negotiating position.

But if this suggestion is ruled out as being inconsistent with the Treasury's desire to ensure that its forecasts remain objective, a number of other possible reasons for the discrepancy remain which may or may not carry over to next year.

One is the enthusiastic—some spending departments might claim excessive—implementation of cash limits by finance officers within the Civil Service. There is no doubt that when spending for the fiscal year 1976-77 became available they will show that spending by central Government is well below even the lowest estimates.

Another possible reason could be that inflation has slowed down, at least in comparison to the early rapid acceleration of early 1975. During the years when inflation was getting faster, the Treasury underestimated the growth of the PSBR, and it may now be underestimating the extent to which falling inflation will bring it down. Although this would suggest a reversal of "fiscal drag", there is some evidence to support this theory.

## Investors give new stock wide berth

By John Whitmore

Financial Correspondent

The Bank of England may well keep interest rates on a gently falling trend by cutting its minimum lending rate to 9½ per cent this afternoon. But the recent check in the downward trend in gilt-edged yields yesterday deterred investors from subscribing for the Government's latest offering of partly-paid stock.

Less than a quarter of the new stock, Exchequer 9½, per cent, 1982, is thought to have been taken up, and this means that the issue will now be operated as a "tap" stock, giving the authorities their first tap stock since late January.

The new stock had a nominal value of £800m. But because it was only £15 per cent payable on application, only £120m would have been needed to be put up yesterday to ensure that the stock was fully subscribed.

In the event, investors tried to give the new stock a wide berth. When the new stock was launched last week the yield was very much in line with the market. But since last Wednesday afternoon, gilt have come back by a pound or more and even yesterday morning's rally in the market never looked like proving strong enough to tempt subscribers.

The Exchequer, 1982, stock is the second partly-paid stock to have been issued in recent weeks. The first, Exchequer 12½ per cent, 1982, proved an immediate sell-out and rose by nearly a fifth on the day following the Budget. However, it has since come back from 18½ to near the issue price of 15.

Yesterday it moved to 16½, in line with the market. It was in anticipation of a cut in MLR today. The Bank signalled moderation by forcing a number of discount houses to borrow at MLR for seven days. But the expectation is that it is just for the time being, and that the Treasury will continue to operate today, provided this does not call for anything more than a modest cut in MLR.

## Cavenham talks denied

General Occidentale, the French master company of Sir James Goldsmith, yesterday reacted to vigorous activity in the shares of its 51 per cent-owned subsidiary, Cavenham, by denying that it was in formal discussions with the company.

Since the January proposals were first received by the Prudential (holders of a 6 per cent stake in Cavenham) and other shareholders, General Occidentale withdrew.

But in the past few days there have been further discussions with the Prudential, although the independent directors in Cavenham, and their advisers, merchant bankers Samuel Montagu, are still waiting for an approach from the other side.

The independent directors made it plain, subsequent to the withdrawal of General Occidentale's 120p share offer, that they considered a price in the 180p-200p range would be more appropriate, but that they were prepared to negotiate at a lower figure. General Occidentale was not at that stage prepared to go over 140p a share.

## GKN launches £66.8m rights issue

By Andrew Goodrick-Clarke

Financial Editor

Britain's largest engineering company, Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, reopened the rights issue gates in dramatic style yesterday with a £66.8m dividend-paying offer.

It is almost two years to the day since GKN's last issue which raised £36.5m of new equity. But this latest GKN issue is the first of any great size since November last year when General Accident's £45m rights flopped and effectively marked the end of the 1975-76 rights issue boom during which British companies had raised over £2,000m.

This issue, underwritten by Morgan Grenfell and N. M. Rothschild, is on a one-for-five basis at a price of 25p against GKN's share price in the market last night of 31½p after a 14p fall yesterday.

Unlike many of the rights issues during 1975-76, which were designed to rectify balance sheet damage caused by the

effects of inflation on working capital requirements and the 1974 corporate liquidity crisis, GKN's offer is to fund the company's heavy capital spending programme, and potentially the acquisition of a further 50 per cent of the West German automotive components company, Sachs AG.

The question of whether GKN will get control of Sachs, in which the British company already has a near 25 per cent stake, is still subject to legal proceedings in West Germany.

During the past two years GKN, under the chairmanship of Mr Barrie Heath, has spent £132m on new capital projects, £101m of it in Britain. This year projected spending is £95m including £65m in the United Kingdom, of which £15m is accounted for by the first phase of the £48m project to replace the Brynmor steelworks billet rolling mill at Wrexham, North Wales.

Buying a further 50 per cent of Sachs would cost GKN just under £55m, which, like the first tranche of the Sachs purchase,

would be financed by overseas borrowing.

Nevertheless, GKN is anxious that borrowings should be kept at around 50 per cent of shareholders' funds. That would be the case after the rights but accounting for the capital spending programme and assuming the Sachs deal goes ahead.

At the same time GKN is taking advantage of the Treasury's dividend restraint concessions for companies making rights issues by indicating that the dividend for 1977 will be raised by 25 per cent to 23.94p a share gross if results for the year are satisfactory.

Last year, GKN's profits were up from £69.65m to £97.75m, and so far this year has started on a slightly stronger note. But certain sectors remain troublesome, notably steelmaking, processing and distribution, which is still suffering recession conditions.

Joint brokers to the issue are Rowe & Pitman, Hurst-Brown and Smith & Ken Cutler.

Financial Editor, page 23



Mr Barrie Heath: £130m on new capital projects over two years.

## Davy steps in to win battle for Morris

By Ray Maughan

Davy International became the third and the last bidder for crane maker Herbert Morris yesterday with a cash offer of 277p per share.

The terms value Morris at £9.3m and top the highest Babcock & Wilcox bid of £2.5m and that of Hawker Siddeley at £1m. Davy's success is assured since it negotiated the purchase of Babcock's 39.24 per cent stake early on Tuesday evening and by noon yesterday the company's brokers had bought up a further 11 per cent from four institutional shareholders.

Mr John Buckley, Davy's chairman, who also heads Alfred Herbert, the Government-owned machine tool group, said yesterday that Davy had been looking at Morris for a couple of months, but had made it clear that it would not enter the fray to become just one more bidder.

He stressed, however, that the bid was made unconditionally once the Babcock stake was made safe and thus did not require the irrevocable acceptance of the 11 per cent institutional holdings.

A share alternative will be put forward with the formal offer documents some time in the middle of next month, but in the meantime Hawker Siddeley has allowed its offer to lapse, while Babcock retains the benefit of the 7p per share second interim dividend paid.



Mr John Buckley: 'Davy bid made unconditionally.'

By Morris before taking the £2m plus profit on the sale of the stake.

A 50p cash offer will also be made for each 3.5 per cent cumulative preference share of £1 and the entire bid will lapse if it is not accepted by the Office of Fair Trading in the Monopolies Commission.

Mr B. J. Knightley, Babcock's finance director, said yesterday that after receiving a message last Friday that Mr Buckley wanted to see the company, "we couldn't see ourselves matching what he was prepared to pay."

"The Morris business fitted us perfectly", he added, "but there was rather too much emotion in the bid early on."

The 18-month bid was made by Mr Patrick Robinson of Morris, confessed himself "very happy" with the new deal and said that Davy's proposals had been accepted by the Morris workers.

He pointed out that, having accepted the 245p cash bid from Hawker Siddeley at the end of last month, the latter welcome to Davy was decided on "just a question of price."

## France postpones gains tax

From Charles Hargrove

Paris, April 6

The French Cabinet has decided to postpone for one year the implementation of a capital gains tax. It was due to come into force on January 1, 1978.

The decision was taken against the background of a sharp drop over the past fortnight in share prices. This was triggered by continuing political uncertainty, with fears of a victory by the Left at the polls next year, and the threat of the new tax, which was voted through Parliament last summer, though in a largely unopposed manner.

When the Cabinet's decision became known it was greeted by rises of up to 12 per cent in some share quotations. M. Barre, the Prime Minister, said: "This postponement will be used to put the finishing touches to the texts implementing the law, in order to ensure the sound operation of the financial market."

As voted, the provisions of the law had provoked widespread anger among investors. This was inevitable, for under pressure from its own majority, the Government had agreed to amend the draft Bill, and rewrite its draft proposals, making them almost incomprehensible. M. Barre's lukewarm defence of the result, an attitude that contributed to his leaving office last August.

The Government had to promise the setting up of a special consultative parliamentary committee on the text. A report has not been published but it is understood to be very critical. The law was far too complicated to become applicable.

In addition to the balance of payments deficit, the decline in industrial investments and the corresponding worsening of the employment are the dominant concerns of the Government.

## Subsidence claims bite into insurance profits

By John Brennan

Insurance Correspondent

As the season for the main composite insurance companies draws to a close, figures for underwriting losses in this country confirm earlier estimates that costs of subsidence claims after last summer's drought would top £60m.

Sun Alliance & London Insurance, which yesterday reported pre-tax profits 6 per cent ahead at £37.8m, has borne the brunt of claims in this sector.

Sun's close links with building societies and its consequently high proportion of householders' business brought claims totalling £13.7m. Coming on top of January storm damage costing £4m, the group's underwriting account was £11m into the red.

Guardian Royal Exchange Assurance, reporting 1976 profits £11.5m higher at £61.1m pre-tax yesterday, retained its position as the only major composite group to show an underwriting surplus, despite subsidence claims and storm damage costs of around £3m each.

Phoenix Assurance, also reporting 1976 results yesterday, estimates that subsidence claims cost £1.7m from its householders' account last year. Storm damage cost Phoenix around £800,000 along with continued problems in the United States and Europe its general underwriting account showed a £3.4m loss.

Higher contribution from investment income brought the overall result to a pre-tax profit of £24.5m, £6.3m higher than in 1975.

Other composite results so far this year show the extent of the subsidence problem, with claims costs of £4m reported by Commercial Union, £4.5m by General Accident and £7.5m by Royal Insurance.

Greater public awareness of the possibility of damage by subsidence as well as the effects of cumulative settlement and structural damage to houses caused by the exceptionally wet winter after three dry summers could presage a repetition of last year's losses. But the companies believe that, short of further exceptional weather, they are unlikely to prove as expensive.

The claims have resulted in a restructuring of policies, revising excess clauses, which have until now penalized the fully insured by requiring householders to pay a percentage of the sum insured rather than repair costs, and a redoubling of the companies' efforts to get householders to increase their insurance cover to a realistic level.

Financial Editor, page 23

## Opec may split on prices

Abu Dhabi, April 6.—The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries may find little common ground on price at its July meeting in Stockholm.

Mr. Manu Saeed Oteibi, the United Arab Emirates oil minister, said in an interview.

"The UAE intends to stick to a 5 per cent increase for the first year, and we invite the other members to join us."

Raising the possibility of a three-tier Opec price structure, Mr Oteibi said: "We are going to stick to 5 per cent, but some of the others may decide to stay at 10 per cent. I have heard that Iran and Kuwait have already informed their buyers of this intention. The rest of Opec may go along with their decision to increase prices by another 5 per cent, giving three prices for oil."

The products are: soya cakes (Brazil), sisal products (Brazil and Mexico), tyres and inner tubes for cycles and mopeds (South Korea and Taiwan).

## US prepares the ground for top economic talks

From Frank Vogl

United States Economics Correspondent

Washington, April 6.—Plans to increase the resources of the International Monetary Fund, to strengthen the World Bank's lending for energy projects in developing countries and to enhance economic policy coordination among leading industrial countries, will be discussed at important international economic conferences in the next four weeks.

Mr. C. Fred Bergsten, Assistant Secretary for Economic Policy, International Affairs, stated in an interview today that detailed talks on ways to augment the resources of the IMF will take place at a meeting of the Group of Ten important industrial countries in Paris late next week.

Under consideration is a plan to "increase the IMF's funds by about \$12,000m (about £7,050m) to \$15,000m", he said. Mr Bergsten said the surplus oil producing countries north of Saudi Arabia, will contribute to this increase. In broad principle there is now agreement on the need for strengthening the fund's resources by creation of some kind of new facility. All the details must still be negotiated, he added.

He stressed that there is no urgency for this new IMF facility, and said that private commercial banks are continuing to play a most important and constructive role in providing loans to countries with payment difficulties.

Mr Bergsten said the new facility will probably be one of the main themes for discussion at the ministerial meeting of the IMF, here at the end of this month and that it will probably also feature prominently at the economic summit conference in London in early May.

He also noted that under discussion is a plan to add strongly to the IMF's resources by sharply increasing member country quotas. This matter is still at an early stage of negotiation. Similarly there is discussion taking place now on raising the resources of the World Bank and other multilateral aid institutions.

The increase in IMF quotas is seen as taking place over the next two to three years. It is quite likely that prior to further increases in World Bank funds the bank may be urged by the largest of its donor countries to allocate a larger proportion of its resources to energy projects.

By this means, noted Mr Bergsten, the aims of strengthening world energy output and of aiding the developing nations will both be served.

Mr Bergsten indicated that the five important points for discussion at the London summit are likely to be strengthening general economic policy coordination between leading industrial countries, energy development (notably the new US energy policy which will be finalized in time for the London meeting), international trade policies, strengthening the IMF, and other multilateral organizations and the North-South dialogue between rich and poor countries, that is likely to reconvene with a ministerial conference in late May.

In the trade area the United States will call for a speeding-up of the multilateral trade negotiations under the Gatt and for greater international trade liberalization.

Mr Bergsten said that one should not view the summit meeting as producing a large set of bold new ideas and initiatives, but rather as an opportunity to strengthen coordination and improve general policy coordination.

He said that the Administration believes that the leading industrial nations must view themselves as collectively responsible for the strengthening of stability of the world economy.

## American textile unions' drive to curb imports

Washington, April 6.—Two United States textile unions plan a protest day on April 13 in an attempt to secure curbs on imports of clothing.

Stoppages and demonstrations will be held nationwide by the Amalgamated Clothing Workers Union and the International Union of Ladies Garment Workers. They have more than half a million members.

Imports from the Far East and Latin America have been opposed for some time by the United States industry. Last year total imports were at their highest level since 1972.

## Registration of restrictive pacts unlikely to cause price war among road hauliers

By Our Industrial Editor

No immediate price war among road hauliers is expected following the registration of a wide range of restrictive trading agreements by the Road Haulage Association.

However, keener pricing of lorry freight contracts can be expected if the RHA, which has 16,000 member-companies, is required in due course to vary or abandon the pacts, which cover schedules of recommended rates for the transport of a wide range of goods.

The present position is that the functional groups which comprise much of the RHA are entitled to continue operating their newly-registered agreements until such time as the Restrictive Practices Court decides otherwise, or they are varied or voluntarily abandoned.

The road haulage industry's traditional system of periodically reviewing rises in costs to provide a guide for haulage rates has come into the restrictive practices net following the extension of previous legislation to service industries and trades.

The ability of the Road Haulage Association to avert, at least for the time being, confusion among customers faced with recommended freight rates stems from the fact that it was the association which voluntarily placed the various restrictive agreements on the public register via Mr Gordon Borrie, Director General of Fair Trading who is also the registrar for restrictive pacts.

The fact that the association has met its obligations under the extended restrictive practices law is an important one, as it affords the RHA interim protection for any of its recommendations arrangements

pending their variation, abandonment, or a court decision. The part, the Office of Fair Trading said yesterday that it had received the fullest cooperation from the hauliers' organization and, therefore, there has been no question of any formal notices requiring the registration of what have been recommendations to members. Notices are issued in the case of unregistered agreements which have been kept secret.

By their cooperation, the RHA has enabled its various restrictive agreements to be legally operated while their terms are examined under various procedures.

The agreements, now open to public inspection, cover hauliers' services for farm goods, bulk liquids, car transporting, caravan carriage, express goods, heavy haulage items, international freight, livestock, meat and long-distance goods. The RHA has for many years argued that there is

fierce competition between hauliers on routes to win business. The practice of recommending schedules of rates has been a useful guide, especially when costs are regularly monitored to help both hauliers and customers arrive at fair calculations covering increased costs, such as fuel and wages.

Under the extension of the restrictive practices legislation to services, a wide range of arrangements and understandings which were previously exempted are now coming on to the register of restrictive agreements and which may go before the court for rulings as to whether they operate against the public interest.

The hauliers' organization is the latest, but certainly not the last, to disclose arrangements which it may, if it wants them to continue, have to defend through the complicated procedures for vetting, varying, or abandoning arrangements that might restrict competition.

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## How the markets moved

The Times index: 165.79 + 0.04

The FT index: 400.5 - 2.0

THE POUND			
	Bank	Buyers	Sellers
Australia \$	1.61	1.58	
Austria Sch	31.00	29.00	
Belgium Fr	66.50	62.50	
Canada \$	1.85	1.80	
Denmark Kr	10.65	10.25	
Finland Mk	7.22	6.97	
France F	8.76	8.44	
Germany Dm	4.27	4.05	
Greece Dr	64.75	61.75	
Hongkong \$	7.75	7.45	
Italy L	1535.00	1480.00	
Japan Yn	493.00	468.00	
Netherlands Gld	4.44	4.24	
Norway Kr	9.44	9.08	
Portugal Esc	65.25	64.25	
S Africa Rd	1.92	1.79	
Spain Pes	121.50	113.50	
Sweden Kr	7.61	7.46	
Switzerland Fr	4.54	4.32	
US \$	1.76	1.71	
Yugoslavia Dnr	34.25	32.00	

Notes for small denomination bank notes only as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

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## Court action over £6m property deal fails

A £6m takeover deal which fell through was a "game of Monopoly" with other people's money, a High Court judge said yesterday.

Mr Justice Templeman dismissed a damages claim by Mr Paul Anthony Rackham, a Suffolk businessman, and J. H. Vasseur & Co arising out of their proposed sale of Roeday Properties, an East Anglian land and development company.

Mr Rackham and Vasseur, co-shareholders in Roeday, sued the intended purchasers, Consolidated Commercial Co (now Peak Foods), Mr Andrew Gordon, its managing director, and Edward Bates & Sons, merchant bankers.

They alleged that Consolidated Commercial and Bates were in breach of a covenant to use their best endeavours to procure the fulfilment of an agreement for the sale of Roeday, dated November 9, 1973.

They alleged that the defendants also broke the covenant by advising their shareholders against the acquisition of Roeday and by ensuring that the shareholders' approval was not given.

Rejecting both allegations, the judge said that after the date of the conditional agreement, the directors of Consolidated and Edward Bates considered the bargain had become unacceptable from the point of view of the shareholders, it was their duty to advise the shareholders.

That advice did not constitute a breach of the covenant. He said that the economic climate had worsened after July 1973, when the valuation on which the sale price was based had been made.

On December 17 came announcements restricting credit and the Chancellor of the Exchequer also announced that the 1974 Finance Bill would charge as income development gains on disposals of land.

"Everyone knew that the Chancellor had aimed at property companies," the judge said. "The directors of Consolidated rightly thought in January, 1974, that Roeday was not the same animal as in times past; that Mr Rackham's wings had been clipped; that January, 1974, was no time to buy a property company."

Both Bates and Consolidated were entitled, and bound, to advise their shareholders that it was in their interest to vote against any resolution which might make the agreement of November 9 unconditional.

The judge added: "By January, 1974, it could be seen clearly enough that the Roeday game of Monopoly with other people's money had come to an end, and that the Vasseur party was over."

## Price freeze plea for metric switch

By Ronald Emler

A code of practice to govern manufacturers' price rises during a period of changeover to metric packs has been recommended by the Price Commission.

Ideally, the commission says, manufacturers' selling and recommended retail prices should not be increased for two months while metrication is taking place. This would ensure that "metrication is not unjustifiably regarded with suspicion

by consumers who may well be confused by changes in pack sizes and in pack prices".

The commission recognises that the changeover could last more than two months and a freeze could, at a time of sharply rising costs, be an unfair burden for manufacturers. Thus it has called for the code of practice to be negotiated with trade associations in order to allay public fears and to protect companies. It hopes there would be only "infrequent" exceptions to the freeze during changeover.

The Government is anxious

that the change to metric packs should avoid the public suspicion that it pushes up prices, as alleged with the change to decimal currency in 1971.

Yesterday's recommendation, contained in a commission report to Mr Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, follows an investigation into the changeover in granulated sugar, biscuits, dried vegetables and salt. It is the first report in a continuous review of metrication being undertaken by the commission.

The results show that in the

four product groups so far examined no price increases can be attributed to metrication. In fact, in six instances manufacturers used the switch to reduce prices.

Four took advantage of the change to implement a price increase already sanctioned by the commission at the same time as they introduced metric packs.

The commission comments that "although this may well be a convenient time for manufacturers to introduce a price change", it is a practice to be avoided "wherever possible".

## Italy raises VAT and petrol prices

From John Earle

Rome, April 6

The Italian parliament today approved a government decree designed to moderate the effects of wage rises automatically linked to the cost of living, and to raise 1,400,000 lire (£333m) to lighten industry's social insurance charges.

Increases in value-added tax and in certain petroleum prices will provide funds for social insurance credits to be set against contributions paid by industrial firms for their employees.

The government hopes that this package of measures will be enough to enable the International Monetary Fund to release a standby credit of \$530m which Italy has been seeking since early last year.

The package, as approved by Parliament, no longer contains two measures originally part of the deal being negotiated with the IMF—a virtual ban on company wage increases, and the exclusion of VAT-induced price rises from calculation in indexed wage increases.

The trade unions, backed by the left-wing opposition, insisted on these changes being dropped. Instead, the Government obtained their consent to a reweighting of the incidence of newspaper prices, local transport and electricity charges in the basket of items making up the cost of living index.

As a result, the rise in the index will be marginally less. Signor Gaetano Starnati, the Treasury Minister, was sent to Washington last week to convince the IMF that no other compromise was possible.

The Government has, moreover, promised the unions that it will not raise the issue of reducing labour costs again before March, 1978, at the earliest, and that any further tax increases for this purpose will be made through direct and not indirect taxation.

## UN report sees gloomy prospects for Europe

By Caroline Atkinson

A gloomy picture of prospects for recovery in West Europe this year and for some time to come is painted in the latest annual survey of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, published today.

Unemployment is expected to rise further, as output in 1977 grows even more slowly—at 3 per cent on average—than last year.

Inflation, while moderating to an average 9 per cent from last year's 10½ per cent, will continue to be much higher in one group of typically weaker countries (including Britain) than in "low inflation" countries such as Germany. This exacerbates the balance of payments problems of the former group.

The hoped for expansion in world trade, which would enable the export-led growth of countries in balance of payments difficulties whose prospects for increased output are otherwise slim, is unlikely to materialise. Trade volumes may grow at only half the rate experienced last year.

A sustained recovery as in the 1950s and 1960s, is not

expected to push the European economies back to full employment in the late 1970s.

This means, the commission concludes, that medium-term growth may be "on average well below the performance of recent decades".

Two main reasons for the poor outlook are advanced by the commission. Intractable inflation combined with high unemployment in many countries has shaken confidence in the ability of governments to manage their economies by "fine-tuning" of demand.

Many of them have reacted by adopting more restrictive policies, both fiscal and monetary, than at similar stage 10 years prior to postwar business cycles.

The commission seems to be in two minds about the wisdom of this government restraint. On the one hand the report states emphatically that "concerted economic policies in the main industrialized countries could set off a boom that would rapidly bring their economies back to earlier levels of high capacity utilization and low unemployment rates."

On the other hand a stimulus is ruled out on the ground that it would reignite an inflation only barely under control.

## Private housing picks up

First signs of an improvement in private sector house-building came yesterday from the National House-Building Council which reported that in March applications for inspection rose to 11,396. That brings the total for the first quarter of the year to 26,680.

The council says that the improvement should continue in the second quarter, and notes that sales recently have also shown signs of picking up.

However, the Department of the Environment issued figures yesterday which show the sector still heavily depressed. In February only 14,700 houses and flats were started, compared

with more than 25,000 in the same month last year. Completions in the month numbered 22,100, a fall of 1,200 on the same comparative basis.

This means that seasonally adjusted starts in the three months December to February were 20 per cent down on the previous quarter, and 38 per cent below the total for the same period a year earlier. Total completions were down 10 per cent on both the previous quarter and a year earlier.

In the public sector starts fell 22 per cent on the previous three months, and were 45 per cent below the adjusted total for a year earlier.



Mr Sydney Swallow has been named as the man who will have around £400m to spend in supplying the Post Office Corporation with its equipment and other goods. He is at present director of supplies to the Greater London Council. Mr Swallow, who is 57, has previously been controller of purchasing for GEC and a senior procurement executive with the Central Electricity Generating Board.

In his new job, he will be responsible for the whole of the Post Office's huge purchasing arrangements.

## Nearly half UK car sales now foreign

By Edward Townsend

Preliminary figures issued yesterday by the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders say sales of foreign cars accounted for a record 45.6 per cent of the domestic market last month.

British Leyland's market share, badly hit by the effects of the oilmakers' strike, fell to under 20 per cent with sales for the month totalling 27,998.

In the first three months the total market was up by 2.1 per cent on a year earlier to 365,711 sales while the importers saw market penetration bound from 34.7 per cent a year ago to 42.8 per cent.

Cars from the European factories of Ford, Vauxhall and Chrysler are playing a significant role in boosting the import total. March's Ford's 7,481 imported models, Vauxhall's 4,202 Belgian-built Cavaliers and Chrysler's 1,575 European cars together accounted for almost 11 per cent of the month's sales.

Datsun regained the leading importer's position from Ford in March with 8,001 sales (6.5 per cent). At the same time, reports from Tokyo yesterday suggested that the Japanese had agreed for the first time to cut the number of cars being shipped to Britain. It was said that private talks had already begun between the British and Japanese Governments on the cut.

Imported Fords took just under 6 per cent of sales last month, closely followed by Fiat with sales of 7,178 (5.8 per cent).

The overall market leader for March was Ford with 31,886 sales (25.8 per cent). After March 23 Vauxhall with 13,186 (10.65 per cent) and Chrysler with 6,937 (5.6 per cent).

## Scottish output disappoints Coal Board chief

Urgent transformation is needed in the Scottish coal industry, Sir Derek Ross, chairman of the National Coal Board, said yesterday. He called for an improvement in the "disappointing results" for 1976-77. Provisional figures showed that coal output in Scotland was down by 638,000 tons to 8,963,000 tons, a fall of 6.6 per cent. Sir Derek said the decline in Scottish output was greater, proportionately, than in all the British coalfields. Productivity also fell, by 2 per cent, to 38.6 cwt a man-shift.

Sir Derek, speaking at Seafield Colliery, near Kirkcaldy, Fifeshire, said: "An urgent transformation is needed and is attainable. Management and unions are working closely together to reverse this downward trend."

"I also hope that when the present pay policy ends the industry will be given the flexibility it needs to negotiate and introduce an effective incentive scheme."

## Scope for more tax reliefs

The Chancellor could give away an extra £500m in direct tax reliefs, according to the latest economic review of Phillips and Drew, stockbrokers. He could also give away something like £2,500m in the spring Budget next year, they forecast, since the Government is now clearly set on an expansionary path. Both tax concessions and pay restraint should be flexible, they argue.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### The road damage cost of running heavy lorries

From Mr Sidney Weighell  
Sir, The Director General of the Freight Transport Association (April 4) argues in favour of greater lorry weights and against budget tax increases on road vehicles.

It is the heavy lorries, however, which are doing the most damage to the roads and creating the greatest costs. Government figures show that some of the heavier lorries, less than the 40 tonnes proposed, have been costing £1,714 each more than they pay in road tax. The subsidy to heavy lorries has been continuing at well over £100m a year.

It is more than likely, as Mr Featherstone admits, that the cost of higher taxes will be passed on to the public in the form of the cost of the goods which travel by road but for my part I welcome the situation where road freight transport has to operate with some of the burdens which which rail has been faced.

To pay for their own track, signalling and other operating freight costs rail's only answer was increased charges resulting in traffic being lost to road freight operators who did not care for the expense.

The railways are a valuable public asset and if the budget changes result in the return of traffic they have previously lost to the roads it can only be in the public interest. Yours faithfully, S. WEIGHELL, National Union of Railwaymen, Unity House, Euston Road, London, NW1 2BL, April 5.

From Mr Anthony H. Miles  
Sir, Michael Bailey's article "The Budget measures will not shift freight off the roads" (April 1) hardly adds to existing knowledge and some of the doubtful statistics issued regularly by the roads' lobby are echoed yet again. It is of little service to the general reader to reiterate adroitly selected figures issued by either side in the road/rail dispute.

As we consider, however, what your Transport Correspondent might do to inform public opinion and thus give the layman some chance to assess current transport policies. He could, for example, review the practices of other countries with those of our own. This approach could produce comparisons such as the following:

### Unnecessary stock relief for engineers?

From Mr Gerald Hansard  
Sir, By United States standards, United Kingdom engineering companies invested an average of £2,600m in stock in 1973, and £3,900m too much in 1974. The statistics for 1976 are not yet available, but a conservative estimate suggests that, last year, United Kingdom engineers invested about £11,300m in inventory back-up. By United States standards, they should have been able to get by on £6,300m. The difference is equivalent to more than double IMF loan.

### Shirt tale of woe

From Mr L. A. Edwards  
Sir, I am astounded to read the comments of Mr Garth Smith, chairman of the Shirt Manufacturers' Federation (March 23).

Last year I extensively restocked my wardrobe with a variety of shirts of British manufacture. A number of them are disappointing. They are all well-known makes and not in the cheap price range. One difficult to iron, and with one exception they are all skimpy in length. Two made from 100 per cent cotton have acquired a yellow tinge, and the fit of the collar in a number of cases leaves much to be desired. One collar was so bad it had to be returned to our very helpful local shopkeeper who is very pessimistic about the chances of getting the manufacturer to show any interest.

I am sorry no shirt ever prints the address of Mr Garth Smith so that we can tell him at first hand what we think and I would have written to him in great detail months ago if I had known where he was located. Yours faithfully, L. A. EDWARDS, 30 Grove Road, Ashstead, Surrey KT21 1BE.

### Whose interest?

From Mr Dudley Winterbottom  
Sir, I keep my business and private bank accounts separate. My business account is generally in credit to about the same amount as my private account is in deficit. I am therefore lending this institution the money at no charge which it is then lending to me at 14 per cent. When asked, my bank and all the others say that the computer cannot correlate the two and then charge or credit the interest on the outstanding balance. I say they don't want to. What do your readers say? Yours sincerely, DUDLEY WINTERBOTTOM, 12 Watton Crescent, Oxford, March 30.

### British Leyland's special success story

From Mr J. D. Abell  
Sir, In your issue of March 25 "British Leyland updates Scammell to win army contracts"—your correspondent, Clifford Webb, stated that Scammell Motors of Watford was the only Leyland company to "beat the Ministry's top '05-21' defence standard."

This is not the case. Three companies in the Leyland Special Products Group, Alvis Ltd, Aveing Barford Ltd and Self Changing Gears Ltd, have been supplying defence equipment to the 05-21 standard for some time. In fact, Aveing Barford Ltd, the construction equipment company in Grantham, Lincolnshire, won the award as far back as 1974.

### Office of Fair Trading and the RHA

From The Director General, Office of Fair Trading  
Sir, A report in Business News today (April 6) stated "The Office of Fair Trading, under Mr Gordon Borrie, the Director General, has served notices on the Road Haulage Association requiring registration of allegedly illegal restrictive trading agreements."

My office has served no such notices. Details of certain agreements voluntarily furnished to my office by the Road Haulage Association were placed on the public Register of Restrictive Trading Agreements maintained by my office on April 4, 1977.

It is for the Restrictive Practices Court to decide whether or not any restrictions in any agreements which I put on the register are in the public interest and whether the parties should be allowed to continue to operate them. Yours faithfully, GORDON BORRIE, Director General, Office of Fair Trading, Field House, Broad Street, London EC4A 3DF, April 6.

# Barclays Bank Limited

## Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting for 1977 of Barclays Bank Limited was held on Wednesday 6th April 1977 at the Head Office of the Bank, 54 Lombard Street, London E.C.3.

Mr A. F. Tuke (the Chairman) presided. The Secretary read the Notice convening the Meeting and the Report of the Auditors. The Report of the Directors and the Accounts for the year 1976 were approved.

Final Dividends of 5.1424p per £1 Ordinary stock and of 7p per £1 Staff stock were declared, payable on 22nd April 1977 to the Stockholders on the Register of Members at the close of business on 11th March 1977 in the case of Ordinary Stockholders and at the close of business on 31st December 1976 in the case of the Staff Stockholders.

The Directors retiring in accordance with the Articles of Association, including those retiring by rotation, were re-elected with the exception of Mr T. D. Barclay, Mr A. D. Manis C.M.G. and Mr D. W. Vaughan C.B.E. who of account of age did not seek re-election. Mr H. D. Crawford retired from the Board at the conclusion of the Meeting.

Other ordinary business was transacted.

A Special Resolution as set out in the Notice of Meeting was passed whereby the Articles of Association of the Company were altered to put it beyond doubt that a Notice convening an Annual or other General Meeting may, when given by post, properly be given by other than first class post.

A Vote of Thanks to the Staff and to the Chairman for presiding at the Meeting was proposed by Sir Ronald Pratt O.B.E., and the Chairman responded.

BARCLAYS

REGISTERED OFFICE: 54 LOMBARD STREET, LONDON EC3R 3AH. REG. NO. 48839.



## AN ENCOURAGING START TO 1977

At yesterday's Annual General Meeting the Chairman, Mr. Peter Boon said:

Fluctuations in trading conditions made 1976 a difficult year, but the results were creditable.

You would naturally wish me to say something about the prospects for the current year but, as I am sure you will appreciate, forecasting in present conditions is a hazardous pursuit.

However, I can report that with three months of 1977 behind us, the current year, in all the circumstances, has got off to an encouraging start. The general outlook for our industry is showing some signs of improvement and further progress may be expected both at home and overseas.

The future holds many imponderables, but what I can say with complete conviction is that I am confident that Hoover can and will move ahead—confident because of its strong financial position, its good management team, its competitive prices and, above all, the high quality of its products and the loyalty of its staff.



Mr. Peter Boon, Chairman, Hoover Limited.

### 1976 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Turnover	£180m (£163m)
Exports	£35.6m (£29.6m)
Pre-tax Profit	£17.0m (£20.7m)
Dividends per share	13.27p (12.07p)
Earnings per share	46p (54p)

Copies of the Report and Accounts together with the Chairman's circulated statement can be obtained from the Secretary, Hoover Limited, Perivale, Greenford, Middlesex.



BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

# GKN funds its capital spending programme

GKN has raked the embers and may have started a small fire in the rights issue market. By all accounts there is now a queue—modest, it is true by 1976 standards, but there nevertheless. And apparently it contains some big names.

Institutional investors will, of course, be happy with issues like GKN's; the company is spending heavily on new capital projects, mostly in the United Kingdom and the City will be anxious to show that it can give unstinting support to such ventures.

But the prospect of some large rights issue will not appeal to the market to quite the same extent.

GKN's issue, meanwhile, was launched into a weakish market at 265p, initially a discount of about 16 per cent. The 1976 dividend is stripped out. With the price down to 312p by the end of the session, the historic ex-rights yield is 6.3 per cent, though, of course, around 7 per cent prospectively, given that GKN hopes to pay 25 per cent more dividend for 1977.

So far as the balance-sheet is concerned the rights will reduce gearing from around 43 per cent at end-1976 to 30 per cent, by the time GKN has capital spending commitments and, hopefully, gained control of Sachs it will be some 50 per cent.

The question, then, is what happens this year with outside estimates going for profits of £125m? It seems that the satisfactory results which GKN is looking for and upon which it will depend that 25 per cent dividend increase are likely but by no means a foregone conclusion.

The year has started well but more recently the pace has slackened, notably in steel; while automotive components demand is good, there are one or two other patchy or doubtful areas—construction, for example. Hopefully, though, GKN may have the chance to update its views on the 1977 outlook by May 3 when the order closes.

For the moment, though, the terms look reasonable, rather than attractive.

Final: 1976 (1975)  
Capitalization £393m  
Sales £1,514m (£1,214m)  
Pre-tax profits, £97.75m (£69.65m)  
Earnings per share, 24.8p (16.8p)  
Dividend gross, 19.1563p (17.24p)

W.H. Smith  
Christmas  
books

Who consumer spending is doing better than anticipated. W.H. Smith set to work on its Christmas book in the 20th anniversary period. As a result profits have come out well ahead of market expectations with a full-year pre-tax improvement of 39 per cent on a 20 per cent sales increase.

For the first time, in some years, newspaper circulation figures held steady in the face of cover price increases last autumn and Smith's wholesale volume dropped less than 2 per cent. The 1976 Christmas sales, however, were up 7 per cent, even though loss of revenue as a result of Fleet Street closure was £1.25m.

With sales volume showing resistance to another drop in price, the company's February sales are high hopes of a stronger performance from wholesaling in the current year. At the same time retail sales pace expansion should continue while there are

long-standing shareholders in the two companies who are recommending or shareholders to vote in favour of the merger as the only way to prevent the diversification.

Meanwhile, an old favourite, Burmah Shareholders' Group, bobbed up yesterday to say that it was keen ever in pressing for the return of Burmah's holding in BP, left by the Bank of England years ago to save off a cash collapse.

The protection committee is to keep the book open and to forward all press releases to the group. The group is now rallying the press again with a second round of the 150,000 shareholders. This is essentially to put them up to date on confused Burmah-BP Bank situation.

The costs of running the campaign are high. An up-to-date register sets the date up back £1,200, while post and printing costs for the

strong grounds for believing that Smith is among those retailers least likely to be affected by any shift to more draconian price control measures later this year.

So, profits could well improve by as much as a fifth this time though the shares at 440p after yesterday's 15p climb seem to be anticipating much of this expansion on a p/e ratio of 10 and yield of 3.4 per cent.

Final 1976-77 (1975-76)  
Capitalization £62.2m  
Sales £324m (£266m)  
Pre-tax profits, £15.63m (£11.25m)  
Earnings per share 44p (28.5p)  
Dividend gross 15p (13.6p)  
"A" ordinary shares

RMC  
Waiting for the upturn

Ready Mixed Concrete's 1976 pre-tax increase of 82 per cent to £22.9m confirms a recovery from the over-expansion of earlier years, and it is now in much better shape to meet the upturn when it comes. But in real terms it is earning less than the £16.1m of 1973 and much of that recovery potential has been used up.

More than doubled profits in West Germany shows what happens on a relatively small volume increase. The 11 per cent volume rise compares with a decline of 10 per cent for 30 per cent since 1972-73 and there is a similar pattern to the 260 per cent profits leap from the rest of the world.

But volume gains in West Germany could fall to only 3 or 4 per cent for a profit rise of perhaps a fifth leaving the other overseas interests as the strongest performer with sharper volume gains still to be made in some countries.

Only a modest profit growth for the group to say £26m-£27m looks like 1977, which will hardly set the world on fire, but borrowings are down again (to £44m from £49m) despite being mostly overseas and the fact that capital spending this year will match cash flow instead of falling below the depreciation charge shows that the recovery in the past couple of years' medicine has cured the patient.

The yield of 9 1/2 per cent at 84p is compensation for those prepared to wait for growth which may be a long time coming.

Final: 1976 (1975)  
Capitalization £53.7m  
Sales £131m (£121m)  
Pre-tax profits £22.9m (£12.6m)  
Earnings per share 33.2p (27.5p)  
Dividend gross 7.95p (7.23p)

Rowtree Mackintosh  
Cocoa  
sums

Rowtree Mackintosh's 36 per cent pre-tax rise to £30.9m in 1976 confirms a forecast that there would be some moderation in a second-half growth. Yet the shares eased 3p to 214p with the market looking for the moon and have shown little net gain over the past six months despite growing evidence that Rowtree is consolidating its trading edge over Cadbury Schweppes and Mars.

True, some of the pre-tax advance is illusory with £1.7m cut in interest charges accounting for about a fifth of that, while there are also exchange gains of perhaps £1m. But even in the very competitive United Kingdom confectionery market last year,

Final: 1976 (1975)  
Capitalization £201m  
Premium Income £426m (£348m)  
Pre-tax profits £37.94m (£35.58m)  
Earnings per share £1.41p (42.98p)  
Dividend gross 27.76p (25.23p)

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Cocoa  
sums

Rowtree's brand leadership has meant some gain in market share while trading margins are only fractionally lower at 9 1/2 per cent, while exports and overseas markets are forging ahead nicely.

Profits growth this year could still be limited to a fifth which on the past rights capital would leave the business p/e ratio (excluding extraordinary items) unchanged at just over 6 while the yield is 5 1/2 per cent. And after cutting their stake from 24 to 17 per cent last year the hope must be that the charitable trusts have now completed their disposals.

Final: 1976 (1975)  
Capitalization £92.4m  
Sales £385m (£317m)  
Pre-tax profits £30.9m (£22.7m)  
Earnings per share 37p (27p)  
Dividend gross 11.25p (8.86p)

Insurers  
Temporarily out of favour

Insurance shares have led the market down in recent weeks as an unduly cautious reaction to the Tenerife air disaster—which is unlikely to cost any individual composite group more than £500,000—combined with market indecision in face of the underwriting task presented by Commercial Union and the Prudential's recent buying spree.

In this climate Phoenix and Sun Alliance's 1976 results, which show the range of market estimates at £24.5m and £37.8m pre-tax respectively, failed to impress. Sun's heavy subsidence claims, although expected, and indeed, at £13.6m below most external estimates, left the shares friendless and 7p lower on the day at 408p.

Without the United States problems of the rest of the sector, and with a relatively low exposure to domestic householders business, GRE has repeated its 1975 performance by showing an underwriting surplus, albeit of a mere £3.8m on premium income up by a third at £56.1m.

Pre-tax profits up by 23 per cent to £61.1m helped the shares up 2p to 186p, although £1.3m of the rise comes from changes in the accounting treatment of its Australian company and a 19 per cent improvement in investment income.

Final: 1976 (1975)  
Capitalization £233.7m  
Premium Income £56.1m (£42.7m)  
Pre-tax profits £61.1m (£49.6m)  
Earnings per share 24.3p (20.3p)  
Dividend gross 14p (12.7p)

Phoenix  
Final: 1976 (1975)  
Capitalization £117.3m  
Premium Income £37.4m (£28.8m)  
Pre-tax profits £24.5m (£18.2m)  
Earnings per share 21.5p (20.8p)  
Dividend gross 14.26p (12.96p)

Sun Alliance  
Final: 1976 (1975)  
Capitalization £201m  
Premium Income £426m (£348m)  
Pre-tax profits £37.94m (£35.58m)  
Earnings per share £1.41p (42.98p)  
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## ANNUAL INCREASE OF PERSONAL SECTOR SAVINGS

	Proportion of incomes saved %	Personal sector savings	Building society investment	Bank deposits	Gross	Net	National savings	Life assurance funds	Company securities	Government securities
1970 ..	9.0	3,122	1,484	822	706	114	1,735	—834	—225	
1971 ..	8.6	3,289	1,961	953	410	612	1,830	—1,282	430	
1972 ..	10.2	4,513	2,139	1,767	—541	813	2,601	—1,231	—11	
1973 ..	11.6	5,910	2,188	3,381	2,080	268	3,097	—2,095	727	
1974 ..	14.2	8,552	2,017	2,973	2,808	45	3,490	—1,299	579	
1975 ..	14.8	10,872	4,165	—77	—280	632	4,331	—1,381	959	
1976 ..	14.2	12,090	3,580	1,324	893	707	4,170*	—953*	506*	
Total holdings at end of period ..	—	n/a	26,109	20,733	13,010	11,807	n/a	n/a	n/a	

\*First nine months of 1976

## Why the competition for savings could grow fiercer

After a lengthy period in which we have been stashing away an exceptionally high proportion of our incomes against a rainy day, something snapped in the final quarter of last year. The wish to maintain living standards as the squeeze on real incomes tightened led us to save less, and the savings ratio—basically the proportion of disposable income, after income tax, national insurance and so on, not absorbed in consumer spending—fell to its lowest level since early 1973.

The fall over the final three months of the year was from 15.5 per cent in the third quarter to 11.6 per cent. Admittedly, the sharpness of this decline was accentuated by the way in which the third quarter had been boosted by the release of the conditional tax concessions announced in the April 1976 Budget. Even so, the final quarter figure still represented a large enough fall below the 14.2 per cent ratio for the full year to be seen as something more than just a quirk.

In other words, as the squeeze on real incomes continues, a rather lower savings ratio also looks likely in the present year, at least until the higher wage settlements of the next year round start to work through and as is to be hoped, the rate of inflation starts to subside.

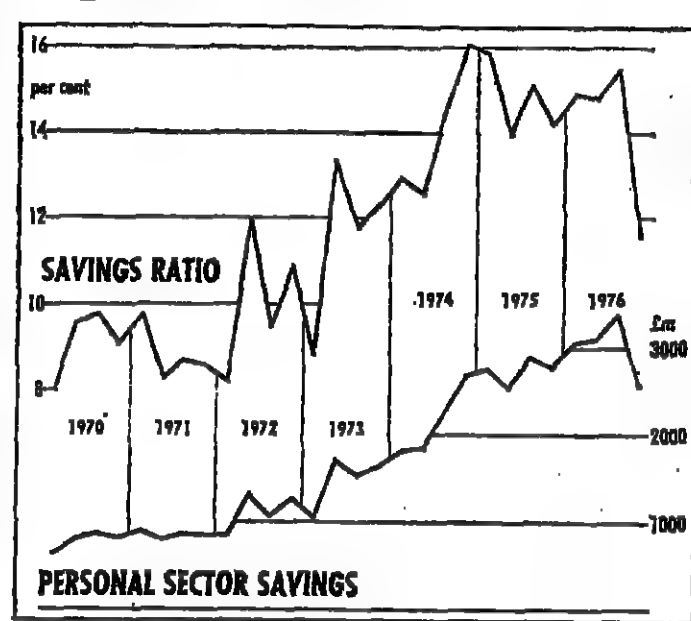
## Seven-point advantage

Already the fall in the savings ratio is being cited by some building societies as one reason for caution when it comes to considering a speedy reduction in building society interest rates. They argue that if the total amount of savings is going to be growing less fast, and if adequate funds are still to be attracted to finance house-purchase demand of about £5,000m a year, then it is more essential than ever to maintain a highly competitive investment rate.

One can perhaps sympathize with the fear that the present downward trend in interest rates may be too good to last. Even that, however, is open to question and there certainly seems little reason for the societies to fear a repeat of what happened to them last year when they cut their rates just after interest rates had bottomed out and were starting their long summer climb up to October's crisis levels.

In short, the present seven-point advantage over bank deposit rates—12 against 5 per cent—and the three-point advantage over money market rates—about 9 per cent—now look totally unjustifiable.

The only reasonable question, it would seem, might concern



the extent of any reduction. For on this score it is possible to argue that the structure of the savings market is continuing to change to the disadvantage of discretionary savings organisations, such as building societies, and that they may in future have to offer rather more attractive terms, relatively speaking, to hold their positions.

That, of course, would be all the more true in a period when the rate of growth in the overall pool of savings has started to slow.

Organisations competing to attract discretionary savings may have to compete rather harder among themselves this year as the total savings pool grows rather more slowly, quite simply because of the relentless rise in the share of incomes absorbed by non-discretionary savings.

By non-discretionary savings I mean the savings that are contractual or even obligatory. These are made up largely of contributions to pension funds and premiums paid to life assurance companies—the payments that people are committed to making regularly, come hell or high water, or have deducted by their employer.

The more important of these two forms of savings to look at, however, is pension fund contributions, since these are firmly linked to the trends in our total income. Government statistics do not in fact break down personal sector life assurance premiums into separate identities, but a recent survey by stockbrokers Phillips & Drew makes the point that the acquisition of financial assets by pension funds is reasonably but not totally

accurate approximation for pension fund inflows—has risen steadily from about 21 per cent of national wages and salaries in the late sixties to rather more than 44 per cent.

Assuming, moreover, that corporate pension schemes have a long-term future, it seems reasonable to predict that this percentage has further to rise as the number and membership of schemes increase and the quality of schemes is further upgraded (once the present pay policy restraints are lifted).

While this relentless expansion in the take of non-discretionary savings institutions may, as I have suggested, sharpen the competition among discretionary savings organisations in a period when the savings ratio is falling, the table shows that it need not necessarily be the building societies, for instance, that will find the going toughest.

## Equity market disinvestment

Equity market disinvestment, as the table shows, has been continuous, and there are few who see any halt to this trend without a reversal of the squeeze on middle and higher income brackets, a radical upheaval in structure of personal taxation and the prospect of dividend growth that keeps pace with inflation.

That said, the general upward revision of last year's quarterly savings figures at the year-end does suggest that the money available for discretionary saving was larger than expected. This, in turn, may help to explain the ease with which the Government has sold gilt-edged stock since last autumn, and profits to be taken here may perhaps flow into other sectors of the savings market later this year.

Again, however, one could put forward a counter argument. For it seems more than possible that a floating rate gilt issue when interest rates come close to their bottom could well have the appeal. That could suit a government that may well be counting on selling, say, £4,500m of various forms of debt to the non-bank private sector in the 1977-78 financial year.

John Whitmore

## St George and Mondragon

The terminal stages of incomes policy concentrate the mind on the irreconcilability of high employment and collective bargaining. Regular students of this space will be familiar with the general theme that the only viable permanent solution of this problem is by law to convert all enterprises above a minimum size into workers' co-operatives. These will be obliged to sink or swim in competitive market conditions without benefit of any active economic or industrial policies by government.

Reasonable men who have been attracted by the general argument have done the less inquired what practical evidence there is that workers' co-operatives can cope with the realities of modern industrial life. They will therefore be interested in a fascinating and dispassionate report on the Mondragon co-operatives, which have been operating for more than 20 years in the Basque provinces of Spain.

The report has been prepared with the aid of a grant by the Anglo-German Foundation for the Study of Industry, by Alastair Campbell, Charles Keen, Geraldine Norman and Robert Oakeshott, whose backgrounds are in banking, business and journalism. It is due to be published later this year and I am grateful for permission to draw on the present draft.

Mondragon is a small town 20 miles from Bilbao; and it is now the centre of an area roughly the size of Devon which is spread a closely linked group of 58 industrial and 18 other co-operatives. They have a combined turnover of £200m and employ nearly 13,000 people.

The first co-operative, Ugor, was set up in 1956 with two dozen workers, at the initiative of a group of 58 industrial and 18 other co-operatives. It now employs 3,462 members. It now employs a further 3,000 in co-operatives which separated off from Ugor itself when its various divisions grew large enough to warrant independence.

Ugor is now Spain's leading manufacturer of refrigerators, cookers and washing machines, with contracts to establish similar plants in Russia, Mexico and Tunisia. It had only one strike, in 1974, in its history.

## 'The essential point is that labour itself should be the entrepreneur'

The Mondragon community is growing at the rate of about four new co-operatives a year, with a typical size apart from Ugor and its progeny of about 100 employees. Nearly half the 58 industrial co-operatives have 100 or fewer members, 14 have 100-250 members, 11 have 250-500 members and six have 500-1,000 members, leaving Ugor as the only one with more than 1,000 members.

Industrial co-operatives include Basque Spain's leading machine tool manufacturer, which exports more than 20 per cent of its output. Other industrial sectors represented are consumer durables and furniture, intermediate goods and components, foodstuffs and forages, and construction and building materials.

In addition to the industrial co-operatives there are five housing co-operatives and a co-operative co-operative with 39 branches and 50,000 members. Erected on this front-line base there are a "second degree" service co-operatives providing education, social security, research and development and most important of all in the judgment of the authors of the report—a bank.

The bank, the Caja Laboral Popular, channels local savings through its 64 branches into co-operative investment projects. It has deposits of nearly £100m and capital and reserves of £15m, having increased its number of savers 22 times between 1966 and 1974. It also employs a high degree of control and monitoring through its Empressarial division with a staff of 90, which insists on and provides highly qualified modern management for the co-operatives.

The bank enforces its insistence on high-grade management through "contracts of association" with the front-line co-operatives. The bank, after a detailed feasibility study taking between one and two years, will provide up to 60 per cent of the initial funds for

a new co-operative; and its loans account for about 50 per cent of the working capital of the Mondragon co-operatives at present.

The essence of the Mondragon front-line co-operatives is that the workers, qua workers (not qua workers-shareholders), are the entrepreneurs of the enterprise and elect the control board on a one-man-one-vote rule. The board hires and fires the top executives who in turn hire and fire middle management. In the larger co-operatives there is also a works council for discussion of working conditions, pay, difficulties and other day-to-day labour problems.

But the workers are also individual shareholders in the co-operative. They have to put up—in some cases by instalments out of wages—£2,000 of their own money on joining a co-operative at its inception and £1,000 on joining a going concern. A quarter of this subscription is immediately forfeit to collective funds; and no withdrawal of capital or of the residual profits which are credited to members' capital accounts is allowed until a member's retirement or departure from the co-operative.

Normal monthly wages are paid in the form of anticipated shares in the co-operative's net income. A rule of the co-operatives limits the ratio of top to bottom rates of pay to 3:1 (pre-tax).

Peter Jay  
Economics Editor

There can be little doubt, despite the absence of precise financial and performance data about the individual enterprises, that Mondragon has been outstandingly successful so far. The questions which the authors raise are whether and how this approach should be imported into any British enterprise alongside the conventional private and public enterprise sectors.

The authors attach particular importance to certain aspects of the Mondragon system and consider that these would need so far as possible to be copied in any British enterprise. One is the strict democracy of each front-line co-operative and the qualified democracy of the second-degree co-operatives where the front-line co-operatives also have a vote, on the basis of perhaps one vote per hundred shares.

They point out that this full democracy is in line with the formula described by the leading contemporary theorist of Labour-managed economies, Janos Vaneek. It certainly seems vital to the whole success of the enterprise and is corroborated by the historical evidence that many American producer co-operatives failed in the nineteenth century because they permitted too many absentee members.

The essential point to me is that labour itself should become the entrepreneur of business enterprises, dealing at arm's length with the suppliers of risk capital and finance, just as capital entrepreneurs have dealt at arm's length with labour. For this very reason I am unperplexed that the direct financial stake in the co-operative system requires is as benign, let alone essential, as the authors of the report believe.

It is at stake and if he and his fellow workers enjoy exclusive title to the residual earnings of the enterprise, it appears neither wise nor necessary for him to invest his own savings in the same enterprise. There is more than a suspicion that the Mondragon co-operatives are in a sense being partly financed by a locked in, and not very favourable pension fund, which would be a most unsound practice.

The central role of the Caja Laboral in the management of the Mondragon co-operatives runs the risk of reintroducing the "third term" (whether shareholders or government) into the worker-customer relationship, so resurrecting, precisely the disregard for commercial realities that is the bane of contemporary British industrial relations. It is workers can blame "the bank"



# SUN ALLIANCE & LONDON INSURANCE GROUP

THE RESULTS FOR 1976 ARE SHOWN BELOW—

	1976 £000	1975 £000
Premium Income—Fire, Accident and Marine .....	426,126	348,258
Underwriting Transfers: Fire and Accident .....	-11,019	-454
Marine, Aviation and Transport ..	2,139	1,588
Long-term Insurance Profits .....	46,709	34,408
Investment Income .....	138	179
Other Income, including Trustee Fees ..	37,967	35,721
Less Loan Stock Interest .....	131	139
PROFIT BEFORE TAXATION .....	37,836	35,582
Less U.K. and Overseas Taxation .....	15,931	15,880
PROFIT AFTER TAXATION .....	21,905	19,702
Less Minority Interests .....	142	178
PROFIT ATTRIBUTABLE TO SHAREHOLDERS .....	21,763	19,524
COST OF DIVIDENDS .....	5,896	8,088
PROFIT RETAINED .....	12,867	11,436
EARNINGS PER SHARE .....	34.14p	42.98p

As already foreshadowed, the year's underwriting results have been seriously affected by subsidence claims many of which are not yet settled but for which we have paid or provided £13.6m. In addition, the severe storms in early 1976 caused us losses totalling £4m in the United Kingdom, the rest of Europe and Canada.

While there were underlying improvements from several sections of our Home business, in the Home Accident Account there was a deterioration in claims experience in some of the liability classes which again resulted in an underwriting loss.

Overseas, a satisfactory profit was produced in Australia and results in Canada showed a further improvement, while U.S.A. Non-Marine business was less unprofitable than in 1975. Although underwriting conditions deteriorated in some territories there was an overall underwriting profit on Overseas business.

The 1974 Marine, Aviation and Transport account closed with a loss but after bringing in savings in the settlement of claims from earlier years it has now proved necessary to make a transfer from Profit and Loss Account. The Marine Fund increased from 138.3% to 143.1% of the year's premiums.

The valuation of the main Life Fund as at 31st December 1976 resulted in an increased transfer of profits to shareholders.

Investment income, which gained from higher interest rates and exchange appreciation as well as from the proceeds of the rights issue in June 1975, rose by 35.8%.

Dividends  
The Directors intend to declare at the Annual General Meeting on 18th May, 1977 a final dividend of 9.245p per share, payable on 6th July next.

Dividend payments for the year will, therefore, amount to—

	Dividend	Tax Credit	Gross Equivalent Dividend
Interim .....	8.500	4.738	13.238
Final .....	9.245	4.978	14.223
Total .....	18.045	9.716	27.761

This distribution compares with a gross equivalent dividend of 25.238p per share for 1975 and is the maximum allowed under current legislation.

If the rate of tax credit becomes 33/67th, it is the intention of the Directors to pass the benefit to the shareholders by way of a deferred final dividend for the year of 0.284p per share in order to maintain the equivalent gross amount.

Full Accounts and the Chairman's Statement will be posted to shareholders on the 22nd April, 1977.

## FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

### Stock markets

## MLR hopes spur demand for gilts

Spurred by the hope of a small cut in the Minimum Lending Rate, gilt-edged stocks dominated proceedings as they rallied well from their recent weakness.

Equities had a far less successful time as the approach of the holiday and, incidentally, the end of the account, prompted further small selling. Profit-taking for the new financial year and more concern over the course of the incomes policy debate were additional bearish factors.

Longer dated gilts recovered steadily throughout the day and, on the news that Davy International had bought out the stake built up by Babcock & Wilcox, Davy, off 7p to 181p, now has control of Morris and rival suitor Hawker Siddeley lost 4p to 498p after dropping out of the race.

Cavenham closed 4p up to 129p in the hope of further takeover moves but eased several pence after a denial while Land Value rose 14p to 22p on news of talks. Others speculatively wanted were Kade International, up 4p to 95p, Manganese Bronze 3p to 26p and G. Dew 2p to 96p.

Dealers were pleased with the figures from W. R. Smith whose "A" shares led the way in the papers sector with a rise of 15p to 440p. News International 5p to 164p and British Printing 3p to 39p were others to benefit from profit statements, but weak spots were to be found in Bowater, down 6p to 183p and De La Rue which gave up 8p to 362p on profit-taking.

Terms of a loan agreement with the National Enterprise Board had Francis Shaw up 2p to 37p and Albright & Wilson rose 3p to 88p on expansion plans.

In late trading, Government plans to inject cash into big city projects helped most building issues to gain a penny or two. Earlier the features had been profits from Ready Mix and Concrete, up 1p to 84p, and Taylor Woodrow 8p to 312p, both being well above market expectations. Another with figures was Hoveringham, but here there was a tuppenny fall to 43p.

The food sector saw profits from Rowntree Macintosh in line with forecasts, but a cautious statement left the shares 3p off at 244p. Other food issues in retreat were Farnham Zechonis 10p to 200p and Bibby 4p to 114p.

There was a sudden and late demand for shipbuilders with Swan Hunter featuring with an 8p gain to 101p and Robt Caledon 2p higher at 85p.

James Warren put on 8p to 76p in plantations, but Lucas gave up 4p to 232p. The group's figures came out earlier this week.

### Latest dividends

Company (and per value)	Ord div	Year	Pay date	Year's total	Prev year
Abrasive Int (10p) Fin	0.84	1976	1.4	1.4	1.4
British Printing (25p) Fin	2.18	1976	3.18	3.18	3.18
British Rollmakers (25p) Fin	1.68	1976	2.56	2.56	2.56
Brooks Group (10p) Fin	1.74	1976	3.01	3.01	3.01
J. Compton, Sons (20p) Fin	1.29	1976	1.69	1.69	1.69
Cons Gold Fields (25p) Int	2.9	1976	7.37	7.37	7.37
East Hand Cons (10p) Fin	1.0	1976	1.0	1.0	1.0
Estates & Gen (20p) Fin	0.3	1976	0.7	0.7	0.7
Guardian R. E. (25p) Fin	5.25	1976	8.27	8.27	8.27
Guest, Keen (11p) Fin	5.04	1976	12.45	12.45	12.45
Hillons Footwear (20p) Fin	3.15	1976	4.34	4.34	4.34
Morris & Blakey (25p) Fin	2.36	1976	4.11	4.11	4.11
Albert Martin (20p) Fin	1.81	1976	2.55	2.55	2.55
News Int (25p) Fin	4.3	1976	8.0	8.0	8.0
Phoenix Ass (25p) Fin	5.16	1976	8.42	8.42	8.42
Rowntree Mack (50p) Fin	2.59	1976	5.17	5.17	5.17
Rowntree Mack (25p) Fin	0.67	1976	1.07	1.07	1.07
Sanderson Kayser Fin	4.81	1976	7.31	7.31	7.31
Sanderson Kayser Fin	2.39	1976	3.92	3.92	3.92
W. R. Smith (21p) "A" Fin	5.68	1976	9.72	9.72	9.72
W. R. Smith (20p) "B" Fin	1.33	1976	1.95	1.95	1.95
Starline Eng (25p) Int	1.2	1976	2.35	2.35	2.35
Sun Alliance (11p) Fin	8.4	1976	18.04	18.04	18.04
Transatlantic (25p) Fin	5.0	1976	6.8	6.8	6.8
Transatlantic (1p) Int	34.34	1976	0.33	0.33	0.33
Transatlantic (1p) Int	34.34	1976	29.4	29.4	29.4

### Peak better than hoped at News Int

Record pre-tax profits and a bigger payout came from News International, publisher of The Sun and The News of the World.

In 1976, pre-tax profits rose from £13.45m to a best-ever £15.62m and the gross dividend, goes up from 11.38p to 12.32p.

Last September, Mr Rupert Murdoch, chairman, told shareholders that the year's results were expected to be about the same as 1975's.

The 1976 profit included £1.88m, as the group's share of the pre-tax profits of associates, compared with £725,000.

This year's figure largely comprises the share of the London Weekend Television profit, and the share of the most profit on the United States operations.

Total turnover grew from £117.81m to £140.13m.

Mr Murdoch reports that the results can be considered "satisfactory". However, costs continue to rise and newspaper is now a lot dearer.

The group's national newspapers in Britain are trading well and in the other sectors of the United Kingdom operations trading results so far are ahead of 1976.

### M Meyer's £2.8m Dutch expansion

Montague L. Meyer has bought Centraal Europeesche Houtindustrie BV for £2.8m in cash (£2.8m).

Centrop is a leading importer of softwood and hardwood with offices in Amsterdam and modern storage and handling facilities at Londen between Rotterdam and Nijmegen. The company has achieved steady growth.

The consideration has been financed by seven-year loans in florins from Barclays Bank International and Bank Mees & Hope NV, at floating rates of interest with an option to convert a part into fixed rate financing and with an initial interest cost of 7 3/4 per cent per annum.

### Hoveringham slowing down again

The good times seem to come and go fairly quickly these days at Hoveringham Group, the giant that quarries sand and gravel, makes ready mixed concrete and runs a sideline in insurance broking.

Geared as usual by heavy depreciation and interest charges the group did better than ever before last year. But it began to puff hard as the months went by.

For the record, Hoveringham Group made pre-tax profits of £2.17m in 1976, a 38 per cent gain, though turnover climbed by only 17.5 per cent to £30.75m.

But in the first six months to June 30 turnover rose by 21.7 per cent to £15.1m and pre-tax profits a heady 9.3 per cent to £1.23m.

With these figures last Nov-

ember came words of warning from Mr Christopher Needler, chairman. He said that trading was still going well into the second half year, but the industry was facing a number of months ahead. He also avoided a profits forecast.

Now the chairman simply adds that the year's figures reflected "the continuation of the trading conditions reported in my last statement".

The trouble for Hoveringham is that the ups and downs of business are magnified by interest charges and depreciation. The latest annual profit of £2.17m would have been smaller but for a fall in interest charges from £524,072 to £269,609, and in depreciation. This went down from £945,708 to £755,924.

In the latest year tax rose

from £859,294 to £1.06m and the upshot was earnings per share of 5.65p against 3.46p. The dividend only goes up by the maximum. The final is 1.36p net, making the total up from 1.69p to 1.86p, or 2.86p gross.

It has to be seen from the annual statement how much the dividend increase indicates confidence in this year. It is something that stronger liquidity and the fall in interest rates have lowered interest charges which should not be such a burden in 1977 as before.

However, Hoveringham is big in motorway and allied works and local authority budgets are important as well. Housebuilding is in slump but may revive later on. But the weather this year may not be as good as last.

There was another clutch of statements in the insurance sector. Bullish figures from Guardian Royal Exchange had the shares 2p ahead at 186p, but there was disappointment from Sun Alliance, where figures were hit by subsidence claims and the shares lost 8p to 408p. Phoenix recreated 3p to 200p after its statement. Among the brokers Willis Faber gave up 7p to 240p on profit-taking.

The attractions of Church, the independent shoe group, stimulated interest and the shares jumped 6p to 97p. More than half of profits are earned from retailing and there is a strong export trade to the United States. Profits for 1976, reported last month, rose 50 per cent to a record £1.96m and £2.3m, or more, is forecast for the current year. Assets are worth around £2 a share.

The clearing banks were unchanged or a shade easier, but there was demand for financial broking house R. P. Martin which gained 3p to 50p.

Company statements were good for rises in Sanderson Kayser 5p, Hilton Footwear 5p, Albert Martin 4p and Yorkshire Fine Spinners 30p. But British Rollmakers gave up a penny at 41p.

Gold shares rallied from early losses of up to 50p against the background of the IMF auction. After hours, several issues gained a further 5p to 10p.

Also after the official close, Cavenham rose again after the earlier fall on a takeover denial and short-dated gilts were adjusted one-sixteenth or so. Taylor Woodrow continued to benefit from figures and put on several pence more.

Equity turnover on April 5 was £61.5m (18,517 bargains). Active stock yesterday, according to Exchange Telegraph, were GKN, ICI, BAT Dfd, Cavenham, Thora "A", Bowater, GP BAT Ind, Trafalgar House, Tube Investments, H. Morris, GMB, Burnham, Shell, Charterhall, Manganese Bronze and Avon.

The sales increase of 29 per cent to £13.1m included perhaps 10 per cent of volume growth and production increased to between 80 and 85 per cent of capacity against between 70 and 75 per cent. It meant a big jump in margins.

The other major factor behind the profits growth was the substantial recovery in the knitwear company which made losses of around £250,000 in 1974 but broke even in 1975. It has built up a captive market in three Paris wholesalers.

Improved demand came from the change in the fortunes of Marks & Spencer, which took 42 per cent of sales, and a greater move towards supplying outerwear, which is continuing.

The broadening of the product range is continuing to have a beneficial effect on sales in the current year, which are up on 1976 and substantial profit growth is looked for.

Earnings were 10.77p and the bigger dividend 4.33p.

Consolidated Gold Plai profits growth this year coming mainly from the recovery in its mining company rather than the Amey Roadstone side which provided most of last year's momentum.

The £7.1m improvement pre-tax profits to £25.3m in six months to December 1976 owed most to a £3.7m turnaround in the mining company, chiefly in Australia.

Reasons benefited from rising iron price and Bellam from increased production although the beach sand and minerals companies were adversely affected by increased costs or a sharp fall in iron prices.

In the United Kingdom Amey Roadstone was near £3m ahead at £5.7m with its operations offsetting low aggregate demand, while Alumac helped boost revenue from industrial and commercial companies from £4.7m to £5.9m.

Thanks to the lower charge per tonne, profits at Bellam rose to £13.4m and the group is looking for an improved second half on the basis of higher metal prices. This is a maximum rise in interim dividend to 4 1/2p but the shares closed 3p at 166p.

One of our main aims has been to extend our service to members, while preserving standards. While our Branch network at December 31st had expanded to 422, our big budgeting system meant that our Management Expenses compared very well with other societies and indeed with comparable financial institutions. Inevitably the increase of business transacted put a heavy workload on the administration. Basically however it is the diligence, devotion and spirit of the staff that we depend for the administration of our affairs and our standard of service.

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## Demolition job from Taylor Woodrow is good for shares

By Ray Maughan

Taylor Woodrow demolished outside forecasts yesterday. Up went pre-tax profits by £6.22m to £21m last year, a record for the sixteenth time. Turnover, including associates, increased by £83m to £413m.

The difficulties in the home construction industry have yet to make a material impact on Taylor Woodrow's progress.

And Mr R. C. Puttick, chairman, pointed out that the contribution from United Kingdom contracting as well as property incomes had increased.

He warned shareholders, however, that it is "much more difficult to obtain profitable work and margins have been reduced".

But the group continues to win its share of the available work and the "immediate prospects are good".

Overseas work, none the less, provided much of last year's push and the group's exposure in the United States, the Middle East, Nigeria and Canada, through the Monarch development operation, proved more profitable.

An attempt is being made to re-expose the South American market although rendering has not been successful to date.

A detailed analysis of the scope and source of the forward order book and the make-up of last year's profits must await the forthcoming accounts.

Liquidity has improved, with the help of the £8.8m right issue 12 months ago, despite heavy spending in new plant. The shares closed 8p yesterday to 312p where the forward total dividend of 10.465p gives against 7.755p per share yield 3.35 per cent.

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## FINANCIAL NEWS

## Bumper second half, maintained payout from British Printing

By Tony May

The better second half looked for at British Printing Corporation took the form of a 276 per cent leap in pre-tax profits to £3.2m. They were bigger than the profits for the whole of 1976, and left the group with a 48.5 per cent rise to £4.75m for the full year to January 1. Sales rose 12.5 per cent to £43.5m, widening margins to 23 per cent from 2.5 per cent. Shareholders are to collect a maintained dividend of 4.89p gross. Earnings a share went up from 4.6p to 5p. Mr Peter Robinson, chairman, says that the printing companies remained depressed in the second half year, but the packaging companies recovered strongly.

There was also a "substantial" improvement in publishing, where overseas profits were spurred by exchange gains. For the current year, he says there are now signs of an improvement in printing, but it is unlikely to be significant in the first six months. He hopes that this will gather pace in the second six, given an upturn in the economy. The group's paper packaging companies were first into the depression and first out of it, and Mr Robinson reports that they continue to make progress, although the board does not expect to have the kind of exchange benefits which came through in the past year. The group's trading profits were £8m, against £7.2m, and

included a net surplus from exchange conversion of £1.6m compared with £375,000. A breakdown of profits shows that printing brought in £789,000 in the second half compared with £228,000 in the first. This gives a total of £1.01m for the year, compared with £3.5m for 1976. Sun Printers continues to be a problem here. Packaging pushed its profits up 93 per cent to £2.3m, and publishing made £4.6m—an increase of 85 per cent. The five-yearly property revaluation has indicated a net surplus of £5.3m. This has helped to raise net tangible assets a share from 80p to 104p. The good results pushed the shares up 34p to 39p but the yield is still 12.3 per cent.

## OTC for Fred Parker as profits go down

By Richard Allen

Capital transfer tax problems have caused Frederick Parker, one of Britain's biggest family companies, to offer part of the group to outside shareholders. Shares in the Leicester-based construction equipment group will begin trading next Tuesday on the Over-the-Counter market run by M. J. E. Nightingale, the merchant bank. Shares representing 81 per cent of the capital following a reconstruction have already been placed with institutions at 120p each. This indicates full capitalization of more than £17m. Altogether around 12 per cent

of the shares are to be placed on the OTC market. Having pushed pre-tax profits up to just over £6m on sales of £27.6m in 1976, Parker is in fact forecasting a downturn in 1977 profits to £5.5m. The group, whose overseas sales represent around 70 per cent of the total, claims that 1976 conditions were exceptional resulting in profit margins which are unlikely to be repeated. Parker, regarded as a world leader in manufacture of quarrying plant, asphalt plant and concrete mixers is predicting total dividends of 11.5p gross for 1977, thus putting the shares at 120p on a prospective yield of 9.6 per cent and p/e of 6.6.

## Embassy Hotels goes to Allied Breweries

Allied Breweries, (Double Diamond Beer to catering and hotels) has bought Embassy Hotels (Hyde Park) for £3.6m in 5.4m ordinary shares. Of these, 2.62m have been placed with institutions. Embassy owns three hotels in central London, including the 193-bedroom London Embassy Hotel, as well as a number of apartments. Earlier this year, Allied revealed that it was planning to invest the £164m on modernisation and expansion.

**SCOTTISH & CONT** Pre-tax loss of Scottish and Continental investment down from £5,000 to £5,000 for half-year to February 28. Revenue available for distribution for full year expected to be in region of £180,000 (£19,000). Board expects gross dividend for year of 1.84p (0.52p).

**HAMPTON GOLD MINING** Royalty receipts for quarter to March 31, \$4,494,000, making total of \$11.3m for 34 weeks, against \$15,750,000 for 48 weeks. Plans to test North Sea well 21/22-1 in May.

**PEARL ASSURANCE** Pearl Assurance directors, because of possible change in Income Tax basic rate for 1977-78, recommend an additional dividend of 1p of each amount (if any) in correspondence to any reduction in rate of relief tax below 35/65ths and not below 35/67ths.

**NATIONWIDE SHARE PURCHASE** Guinness Mahon & Co has agreed to buy for BCA 78,558 Nationwide Ordinary shares for cash at 3.75p per share. Previous announcement of purchase by Guinness Mahon & Co of 46,790 Nationwide Ordinary shares should have read 9.516p per share, not at 10p as stated.

**ABRASIIVES INT** 1976, £2.28m (£1.83m). Pre-tax profits are £5,000 (£25,500). Dividend is cut from 2.15p gross to 0.86p. Remedial measures are taking effect.

**STANLEYLANDS** Greenall Whitley's offer has been accepted on 85.79 per cent giving a stake of 88.12 per cent.

**INT COMBUSTION** Mr J. A. C. Talbot, chairman of International Combustion Holdings in which Sir Monty Finniston recently became a director, said the group continued to be active in search for suitable acquisition candidates. He was confident that 1977 profits would exceed those of 1976.

**BATU MATANG RUBBER** Total income of Batu Matang Rubber Plantations (1932) for half-year to December 31 up from £62,000 to £116,000. Pre-tax profit up from £38,000 to £73,000.

**MORAN TEA HOLDINGS** With the unprecedented buoyancy of the price on the London market, profit for 1976 will be "very considerably" higher than 1975, board reports in interim statement. Interim payment, gross, raised from 4.61p to 7.7p.

**GODFREY DAVIS** Contracts exchanged for purchase of United Service Transport from Herts Corp. Estimated consideration is some £300,000 cash.

## Briefly

**MOYAN & BODEN** Turnover for 1976 £7.6m (£6.2m) and pre-tax profits are £406,000 (£308,000). Earnings a share, 4.6p (3.89p). Dividend is raised from 1.64p to 1.8p gross.

**BOUGAINVILLE COPPER** Bougainville Copper is discussing with its bankers a possible borrowing programme for 1977. The high level capital expenditure in 1977 and 1978 necessitates additional borrowing, annual meeting told.

**ROSEDAUGH TEA** Roseaugh Co has bought 181,500 ordinary shares in Roseaugh Tea (Holdings) at 8p per share. This brings its stake to 39.2 per cent.

**UK CAPITAL ISSUES** In March issues after redemptions £37.7m against minus £20.4m the month before and making £58.1m for first quarter 1977 against £367.6m same months 1976.

## NEB's £1.75m for F Shaw

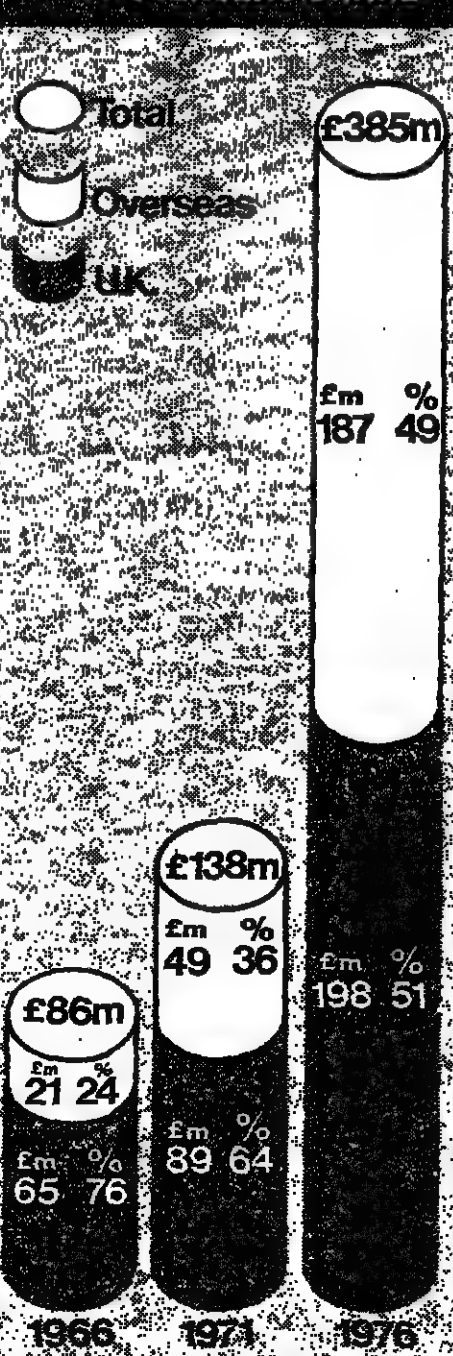
The National Enterprise Board is to inject £1.75m of new capital into Francis Shaw, the Manchester-based machinery manufacturer supplying the rubber and plastics industries. The new money will be used to continue Shaw's product diversification designed to lessen its dependence on the tyre industry. The NEB is to provide £750,000 initially partly by subscribing £546,000 for 1.4 million of a new class of deferred ordinary shares of 20p which carry a net fixed dividend

equivalent to 9.5 per cent on the 39p per share subscription price. They carry the right to convert, at the NEB's option, into ordinary shares on a one-for-one basis, giving the NEB 29.8 per cent of the existing equity after conversion. A further £204,000 will be subscribed immediately for unsecured loan stock 1982-85 at 2 per cent over the National Loan Fund rate applicable at the date of allotment. A loan facility of £1m will also be provided which may be drawn between 1979 and 1982.

# Rowntree Mackintosh

## continued growth reflects brand strength

## GROWTH OF GROUP SALES AND OVERSEAS SHARE



- \*Record profits in real terms.
- \*Large investment programme.
- \*Exports up 40%.

The Rowntree Mackintosh Group had an excellent year in 1976 in a very competitive trading environment and against an uncertain economic background in many areas of our world wide operations.

Sales values and profits rose in real terms, sales volumes were higher, brand strength increased, a large fixed asset investment programme was carried through and capacity use and employment were at a high level.

The continued success of the Group is a direct consequence of our positive objective of satisfying our consumers and of endeavouring to ensure that millions of consumer decisions made each day show preference for and loyalty to Rowntree Mackintosh products.

Our fixed asset investment programme cost £16.1m in 1976 compared with £8.1m in 1975. We plan to spend some £65m over the next three years to maintain the good health of the business, the level of employment in our communities and our service to the consumer. The implementation of these plans depends on the maintenance of our profit levels in real terms.

The major uncertainties for the future lie in the areas of consumer reaction to higher prices and increasingly restrictive price controls in some countries. It would be unwise to forecast the outcome for 1977 in the face of these uncertainties.

However, in the first seven years of the 1970's, profits have more than doubled in real terms and we have invested large sums in products and people. Our brand strength and market shares give cause for confidence and our plans are for continued growth in all divisions.

# Rowntree Mackintosh

Confectionery KIT KAT \* QUALITY STREET \* SMARTIES \* POLO \* BLACK MAGIC \* GOOD NEWS  
FOX'S GLACIER MINTS \* ROWNTREE'S PASTILLES \* AFTER EIGHT \* WEEK-END \* AERO \* ROLO  
COFFEE CRISP \* DAIRY BOX \* TOFFO \* VIOLET CRUMBLE \* MATCHMAKERS \* JELLYTOTS  
WALNUT WHIPS \* XXX MINTS \* TEXAN \* NUTTY \* YORKIE  
Grocery BLUE RIBBON \* CREAMOLA \* PAN YAN PICKLES \* TABLE JELLIES  
SUN-PAT PRANUT BUTTER \* BREAKAWAY \* CHEDDAR SPREAD

Summary of results	1976	1975
	£000	£000
Total Sales	384,921	316,568
Trading Profit	36,784	30,278
Pre-tax Profit	30,897	22,872
Ordinary Dividends	3,159	2,074
Retained Profit	13,700	8,830
Funds employed	147,100	127,058
Ordinary Dividend	7.3125p	5.76p
Earnings per share	37.0p	27.0p

## PHOENIX ASSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED

## PRELIMINARY PROFIT STATEMENT

RESULTS  
The following are the preliminary results of the Phoenix group of companies for the year ended 31st December 1976, subject to audit, together with the audited results for the year 1975.

	1976	1975
	£m	£m
<b>PREMIUM INCOME</b>		
General .....	323.4	245.5
Long-term .....	60.8	42.8
	<b>374.2</b>	<b>288.3</b>
<b>PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT</b>		
Investment income .....	32.2	24.3
Underwriting results:		
General .....	-8.4	-7.3
Long-term .....	1.8	1.7
	<b>24.6</b>	<b>18.7</b>
Less expenses not charged to other accounts .....	0.1	0.5
<b>PROFIT BEFORE TAXATION</b>	<b>24.5</b>	<b>18.2</b>
Less: Taxation .....	8.6	5.1
Minority interests .....	2.3	2.0
<b>NET PROFIT</b>	<b>12.6</b>	<b>11.1</b>
Dividends .....	5.4	4.9
Net profit retained .....	7.2	6.2
Earnings per share .....	<b>21.5p</b>	<b>20.8p</b>

The geographical distribution of the general business is as follows:

	Premiums written	Underwriting balance
	1976	1975
	£m	£m
<b>United Kingdom and Ireland:</b>		
Home fire and accident ..	80.2	78.1
Reinsurance subsidiaries ..	18.8	8.3
Marine - UK companies ..	21.9	20.6
Aviation - UK companies ..	5.7	4.0
	<b>134.6</b>	<b>109.0</b>
<b>Europe .....</b>	<b>32.7</b>	<b>0.2</b>
United States .....	70.2	50.3
Canada .....	24.7	17.7
Elsewhere .....	42.9	35.8
	<b>323.4</b>	<b>245.5</b>

**UNDERWRITING**  
In the United Kingdom the property account made a loss after providing £1.7 million for sub-sistence claims. Private car business showed a modest surplus but commercial vehicle and liability insurance an underwriting loss.

The improvement in the group's Canadian business has continued. In Australia the loss has been substantially reduced. With the exception of Denmark, results in Europe were disappointing.

The United States made an increased loss by comparison with the previous year but the fourth quarter's results were more encouraging. The operating ratios for the USA on the statutory basis are:

	1976	1975
Claims as percentage of earned premiums .....	79.8	77.8
Expenses as percentage of written premiums .....	27.4	28.8
	<b>107.2</b>	<b>106.6</b>

Overseas currency transactions have been converted in the main at rates of exchange ruling at 31st December 1976. Business written through subsidiaries in the United States has been included at the rate of \$1.70 (1975 \$2.02) to the pound.

**DIVIDEND**  
The directors recommend a final dividend of 5.167p (1975 4.897p) per share to be paid to members on the register at the close of business on 27th May 1977. This represents the maximum increase permitted. The date of payment will be 1st July 1977 and the cost £3.0 million.

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
The annual general meeting will be held on Thursday 26th May 1977 at 12 noon. The annual report for 1976 will be issued on 3rd May.



# Guardian Royal Exchange Assurance Limited

## RESULTS FOR 1976

### Dividend

The Directors recommend the payment of a final dividend of such an amount as will produce with the appropriate tax credit a gross equivalent of 8.07892p per share, making a total gross equivalent for the year of 14.002p per share (1975: 12.7292p). The increased dividend is the maximum permitted under current regulations.

If approved at the Annual General Meeting to be held on 1st June 1977 a payment at the rate of 5.2513p per share in respect of the final dividend will be made on 2nd June to holders of Ordinary Shares whose names appear on the register at 25th April 1977, making with the interim payment made in January 1977 a total of 9.1013p per share on the Ordinary capital (1975: 8.27398p). Should the rate of Advance Corporation Tax for the year 1977/78 be reduced to 33/67ths an additional payment of 0.16158p per share will be made to shareholders as soon as practicable thereafter in order to maintain the equivalent gross distribution for the year.

### Preliminary Profit Statement

The audited accounts for the year ended 31st December 1976 will be posted to shareholders on the 5th May 1977.

Subject to audit the results for the year are as follows:

	1976	1975
	£m	£m
Short-term premiums written (net of reinsurance)	560.7	427.1
Investment income	58.5	48.2
Less interest payable	6.7	6.7
	51.8	42.5
<b>Underwriting Results</b>		
Short-term (Fire, Accident and Marine)	8.8	2.1
Long-term	5.5	5.0
	9.3	7.1
Profit before taxation	81.1	49.8
Less Taxation	28.6	24.7
Profit for year after taxation	32.5	24.8
Less Preference dividend and Minority interests	1.4	0.6
Profit for year after taxation available to Ordinary shareholders	31.1	24.3
<b>Ordinary Dividends</b>		
Interim 3.86p per share	4.8	
Proposed 5.2513p	5.6	
Final *0.16158p per share	0.2	
Total *9.26288p per share (1975: 8.27398p)	11.6	18.4
Profit transferred to Retained Profits	£19.5m	£13.9m
Earnings per Ordinary share (after taxation)	24.3p	20.3p

\* Subject to Advance Corporation Tax being reduced to 33/67ths

Underwriting profits have been achieved in the United Kingdom, Australia, Canada, Brazil, the Far East, West Africa and on overseas business written in London. In Europe there has been no improvement, our operations in Germany and Holland suffering from heavy storm damage, intense competition and lack of increases in rates, although this was partly offset by good results in France. As a result of a change in Australian legislation and practice, the contribution made to the consolidated profit and loss account for 1976 by the short-term revenue profits from that country has been increased by £1.3 million (£0.8 million after tax). This is an extension to the Australian company of the policy previously applied to the accounts of our Canadian and German companies which are consolidated on the basis of accounts prepared in accordance with their own local legislation and practice. The Marine and Aviation account returned a useful profit but conditions in that market in the U.K. still give cause for concern. However, the recent tragic accident at Tenerife is not expected to result in any significant cost to the company.

The Life figures have been excellent and the bonuses of the principal Life Fund - Guardian Assurance Company Limited - were increased last December.



**Guardian Royal Exchange Assurance**

Royal Exchange, London EC3V 3LS

Financial Year 1976

SOCIÉTÉ GÉNÉRALE DE BELGIQUE

### Extract from the Annual Report

#### The Société Générale de Belgique in 1976

In his statement to the shareholders' meeting, which took place on the 15th of March, 1977, Mr P. E. CORBAU, Governor, reminded his audience that the accounts for the 1976 financial year carried the imprint of the serious recession which struck the world in 1975, both in the operating results that are shown and in the particularly high depreciation which they foresee.

The dividends collected in 1976 amounted to 1,224 million BF, a decrease of 24.5% on those of the previous year.

Taking into account a moderate increase in overheads, the net profit for the year amounts to 784 million BF. The meeting decided to allocate this amount to the payment of a dividend amounting to 135 BF, net of tax, for each reserve Share, which implies a

deduction of 114 million BF on the sum carried forward and reduces this from 221 to 107 million BF.

#### The Société Générale de Belgique Group in 1976

The companies affiliated to the Société Générale de Belgique succeeded, on the whole, in making the most of the recovery that occurred in the first quarter to mitigate the more prejudicial effects of the 1975 crisis. The slowing down of the economic situation that subsequently made itself felt did not, however, enable them to release the necessary resources for implementing any considerable projects or extension programmes. The stagnation and even shrinking of investments is, besides, a phenomenon that has been observed in many industrial countries; the report analyses this at length.

In its examination of the Group's activities, the report specially dwells on

three particularly significant aspects within the present economic context. The first of these is concerned with engineering contracts awarded by foreign countries and, specially, those of the Third World; the second, with association contracts concluded with manufacturers in these same countries, and lastly, with the privileged position that the innovative function fills in our affiliated companies.

A characteristic example of the engineering contracts won is that which Sybex concluded with Iraq worth 27,000 million BF. The supplies and services of Belgian origin, amounting to some 18,000 million BF, will involve close on 8,000 companies. They will guarantee 11,000 to 12,000 jobs for a year and lead to the payment of a total amount of salaries of 7 to 8 thousand million BF.

## FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

### Rollmakers fall 45 per cent but hold payout

The outlook at half time was grim at British Rollmakers Corporation, and in fact the second half produced a fall of 44.6 per cent in pre-tax profits to £605,000. The group ends the year to January 1 with a 27 per cent fall in profits to £1,311m on turnover 14 per cent up at £21.3m.

A divisional breakdown shows that trading profits of the roll-making side were £775,000—a fall of 27 per cent—on turnover 16 per cent down at £14.8m. Machine tool equipment made profits of £471,000—a dip of 25 per cent, on turnover 10 per cent up at £5.5m.

Interest charges are steady at £21,000. With attributable profits falling from £1,09m to £605,000, the board is holding the dividend at 15.78p gross. Earnings a share are 2.69p against 3.94p.

At half time the board warned that while profits were only down £1,000 to £710,000, there was no sign of an improvement for the rest of the year. Better trading conditions were looked for in 1977.

The group has been facing severe competition in exports markets, where business has been taken on at low prices in order to keep up the volume of production. The interim figures were hit by a strike at Cambridge.

### Tranwood shows big loss

Sales of the Tranwood Group, direct mail order retailers, colour printers and poultry farmers, dropped last year to £8.4m from £12.3m. Pre-tax profits were £208,700 against £749,000.

No final dividend was announced making a total of 0.5p against 1.5p in 1976. Results for the year to January 31, 1976, are those of the continuing group as a going concern, being the company and its subsidiary, Bensons Hosiery (Holdings). They exclude the losses of Tranwood Limited and Tranwood Plastics Disposals which were placed under the control of a receiver in December last year.

Comparative figures for 1975 comprise combined results of Tranwood Limited and Bensons Hosiery (Holdings) prior to merger in 1975.

#### Clarke, Nickolls

Pre-tax profits of the Clarke, Nickolls and Coombs group at January 1, 1976, fell to £371,600 from £346,000. This included profit from its associated company of £108,900. Total dividend was 1.47p (2.45p).

#### Thomas French ahead

On turnover at Thomas French & Sons, manufacturers of "Rufflette" brand curtain styling products, up from £4.4m to £5.2m for the six months to January 1. Pre-tax profit rose by 10.2 per cent to £469,000. Mr T. J. French, chairman, says that the profits were achieved in trading which was not generally favourable. The company once again had to absorb substantial increases in raw material cost. A dividend of 1.54p gross is being maintained.

#### Exchange Travel

Exchange Travel Holdings Group accounts, almost completed for the year to October 31, are expected to show a trading profit, before tax or debit of forward promotional costs, of more than £646,000, compared with £414,000 for the previous year. Factors which have aided the increase have been an improved contribution from charter operations to holiday destinations and an improved consolidated performance from the Exchange Travel Agency Retail Company. These results were based on a turnover of £15.1m, up 23 per cent.

#### Containers rebound

Overseas Containers, owned by a group of major United Kingdom shipping concerns, show a marked recovery in the year to end-November. Profits doubled to £42.5m from the £20.2m in the 14-month period in 1975. Turnover was £22m against £18.7m. Mr R. O. C. Swayne, chairman, states that the outlook for the current year is good. He looks to the group achieving profits in the current year which in real terms top those of 1976.

#### Brocks pays more

Pre-tax profits of the Brocks Group reached £855,000 last year, compared with £582,000. However, 1975's figure was stated before adding £305,000. Those were management charges to former subsidiaries, and there is no such credit for the 1976 result. Turnover rose from £5.9m to £7.5m. The gross payment rises from 4.31p to 4.64p.

Brocks covers electronic marine navigational aids, burglar alarms, and car radios, etc.

#### Int Westminster notes

The International Westminster Bank floating rate capital notes 1984 issue, announced on March 28, has been increased from \$75m to \$120m after substantial oversubscription. The notes, guaranteed by National Westminster Bank, will be listed in London. They have been issued at par with semi-annual coupons, the rate on which will be determined every six months at 1 per cent above the six-month LIBOR.

## Deutsche Bank beats squeeze to earn more

From Peter Norman

Bonn, April 6

Despite a continuing squeeze on the margin between interest paid and interest received, Deutsche Bank AG, West Germany's biggest bank, held its operating profit before extraordinary items by 15 per cent in the first two months of this year compared with the same period of 1976.

Herr Wilhelm Christians, one of the two spokesmen of the Deutsche Bank managing board, said in Frankfurt that the interest margin had fallen to a level of only 2.57 per cent at present from 2.75 per cent at the end of 1976 and 3.18 per cent a year before.

Although the wage increase agreed by the bank for this year will have an effect on earnings from the beginning of March, Herr Christians said he expected overall results for 1977 would be "reasonable" after a "good" year in 1976 when the bank's net profit totalled DM280m (about £66.6m).

However, Herr Christians gave a warning that if present circumstances continue, the new German corporation tax regulations will lead to Deutsche Bank reducing its cash dividend this year.

While German shareholders can look forward to an increase in effective dividend yield because of the changed tax regulations, the dividend reduction from the 20 per cent paid for 1976 will hit shareholders outside West Germany. Although Deutsche Bank's

results last year were more than satisfactory—operating profits declined by only 12.3 per cent compared with the "super" banking year of 1975—Herr Christians went to great length to stress the cost pressures under which Germany's large joint stock universal banks were operating.

He said it would be the bank's task this year to improve the results on its credit business as far as possible, while setting the less profitable results of its branches against the more highly profitable activities conducted through the headquarters in Frankfurt.

Foreign business accounted

### International

for about 35 per cent of Deutsche Bank's overall business. Herr Christians said that the bank was unlikely to raise capital by a rights issue in the near future. He said the end of this year would be the earliest point for such a move.

Meanwhile the bank's board does not expect that the \$125m warrants attached bond issue which is to be floated by Deutsche Bank's Luxembourg subsidiary after the annual meeting in May will lead to heavy selling of the bank's shares abroad.

#### Alcan (Aust) rights

Alcan Australia states that it will make a one-for-four rights issue of \$A1 nominal shares at

per to shareholders registered on April 15, raising paid-up capital to \$A35m (about £21.8m) from \$A28m.

Alcan said the funds raised will be used to partly finance a previously reported expansion programme. The company is owned 70 per cent by Alcan Aluminium and 30 per cent by a number of Australian institutions.—Reuter.

#### Aetna Life optimistic

Aetna Life and Casualty Company of Switzerland, expects its long-term profit trend to continue along positive lines but less cyclical than in the past, Mr John Filer, the chairman, said.

Speaking at a conference to mark the listing of the company's shares on the bourses of Zurich, Basle and Geneva from April 19, he said the slowdown in United States inflation had had a positive influence on the development of insurance business because it made the pricing of insurance products easier.—Reuter.

#### Metal earnings fall

Earnings of Metallgesellschaft AG, the West German metal group, in the first five months of the 1976-77 year were above those of a year ago, but below the average for the second half 1975-76, Herr Jakobus Greven, the finance director, said.

Forecasts for the year, he said, are difficult after uncertainty on the international metal markets, especially in the case of zinc. Herr Gustav Rajen, the

chairman, said he hoped results could reach the 1974-75 level when net profits for the year were DM21m (about £5m) and for the group DM31.1m.—Reuter.

### Nippon Mining double inflation deposit

Nippon Mining Co states that its after-tax profit in year ended March is believed to have doubled 24,350m yen (about 1,700m yen) the preceding year. Sales are about 17 per cent to 590,000 yen from 504,700m yen.

The company said the figure is higher than the 3,100m yen profit and 582,000 yen sales forecast for the year November.

It said the better-than-expected business performance was due mainly to a decline in the cost of imported crude because of the appreciation of the yen which started from a December.—Reuter.

#### Algemene to expand

Algemene Bank Nederland (ABN) proposes to do a share capital increase of FL1,000m (about £227.2m) to prepare for further expansion. Its issued share capital at the end of 1976 was FL1,414m and, said earlier that the balance sheet total rose to FL55,900m last year.

Mr Andre Batenburg, chairman, said shareholders meeting on April 29 will discuss the proposal.—Reuter.

## Half-Yearly Statement

# Gold Fields

The unaudited results of the Group for the half-year ended 31 December 1976 are shown below together with the corresponding figures for the half-year to 31 December 1975 and those for the whole year to 30 June 1976.

	Half-year to 31.12.76 £'000	Half-year to 31.12.75 £'000	Whole year to 30.6.76 £'000
Net revenue of:			
Construction materials companies	5,743	5,893	13,199
Industrial and commercial companies	6,894	4,630	11,636
Mining companies	3,414	(302)	4,784
Dividends on investments	7,819	7,470	15,392
Profit on realisation of investments, less unrealised depreciation	2,367	2,717	6,834
Fees and sundry revenue	4,779	4,662	9,219
	34,016	25,070	61,084
Administration, technical and general expenses	4,412	4,253	8,395
Interest on loan capital	6,088	4,882	10,223
Exceptional amounts written off in respect of mining subsidiaries	—	—	4,366
Exploration expenditure written off	2,415	1,844	4,260
	21,101	14,091	33,840
Share of profit of associated companies	5,195	5,043	10,772
Profit before taxation	26,296	19,134	44,612
Estimated taxation:			
Group	12,228	11,870	15,212
Associated companies	642	350	768
Net Profit	13,426	6,714	28,632
Attributable to outside shareholders	1,553	(391)	6,108
Net profit attributable to the Shareholders of Consolidated Gold Fields Limited	11,873	7,105	22,524
Earnings per share (based on the average issued Ordinary share capital)	9.90p	5.91p	18.76p

### Group Profit

Group profit before taxation amounted to £26,296,000, an increase of £7,162,000 compared with the corresponding period in the previous year.

Net revenue of the construction materials companies at £8,743,000 was higher by £2,850,000 due mainly to improved earnings from Amey Roadstone Corporation's construction and general haulage operations. Despite the continuing reduction in demand for their products, Amey's aggregate operations showed slightly improved profits.

Industrial and commercial companies' net revenue rose by £2,244,000 to £6,894,000. Earnings by Axzon Corporation were higher as a result of the acquisition of the Hyman-Michaels scrap metals business in July and improved performance by the steel distribution divisions. In the United Kingdom, Alcanac achieved a substantial increase in both turnover and profit.

The mining companies' operations resulted in a profit of £3,414,000 reflecting a favourable swing of approximately £3.7 million when compared with the same period in the previous year. In the Australian group, there were significant increases in the profits of Renison and Bellambi. Renison benefited mainly from higher tin prices whilst Bellambi's recovery was attributable to increased production. Associated Minerals Consolidated and Western Titanium were adversely affected by increased costs and a sharp reduction in zircon prices. Despite the Australian dollar devaluation in November, the Group's copper mines, Mount Lyell and Gumpowder, continued to be unprofitable. The Wheel Jane mine in Cornwall experienced a strike in the early part of the year, but the improvement in the tin price resulted in a substantial reduction in the operating loss.

Despite a general reduction in the level of actual distributions by the South African gold mines, the Group's dividend income rose marginally to £7,819,000. This was due partly to exchange rate movements and partly to an increase in the amount of underlying South African taxation included in the grossed-up income.

Profit on realisation of investments was slightly lower at £2,367,000, after charging £6,385,000 (last year £4,332,000) in respect of unrealised depreciation. The heavier depreciation charge included approximately £4 million in respect of the Group's investment in the developing Deelkraal gold mine.

The Group's share of profit of the associated companies amounted to £5,195,000, of which £4,398,000 related to its 49 per cent interest in Gold Fields of South Africa. The latter's earnings were adversely affected by lower investment income but, due to the exchange rate movement together with improved results in other associated companies, the Group's income from this source showed a marginal increase.

The total taxation charge, at £12,870,000, absorbed a lower proportion of the profit than that for the corresponding period in 1975 which was exceptionally high.

### Interim Dividend

The Directors have declared an interim dividend of 2.901p per share (representing an increase of 10 per cent over that for last year) payable on 31 May 1977 to holders of Ordinary shares registered in the books of the Company at the close of business on 29 April 1977 and to holders of Coupon No. 120 detachable from Ordinary share warrants to bearer.

Dividend Warrants will be posted to registered shareholders on 30 May 1977.

Shareholders on the Johannesburg Branch Register of the Company will be paid from the Company's office at 75 Fox Street, Johannesburg, in South African currency at the London fixed exchange market spot selling rate for Rand at the close of business on 29 April 1977, or if no dealings in Rand are transacted on that date, at the close of business on the day next following on which dealings in Rand are transacted.

Holders of Ordinary share warrants to bearer are notified that Coupon No. 120 will be paid:

in London at  
Midland Bank Limited, New Issue Department,  
Mariner House, Peppys Street, London, EC3N 4DA

or in Paris at  
Lloyds Bank International (France) Limited,  
43 Boulevard des Capucines,  
75061 Paris, Cedex 02, France

or in Zurich at  
Union Bank of Switzerland;  
8021 Zurich, 45 Bahnhofstrasse

on 31 May 1977 or at the expiration of six clear days after lodgment thereof, whichever is the later.

### Outlook

Whilst there has been a significant improvement in metal prices in recent months, considerable uncertainties remain. Nevertheless, the indications are that the earnings of the Group for the year will be better than those for last year and it is the Directors' present intention to recommend a further increase in the final dividend.

49 Moorgate,  
London, EC2R 6BQ

By Order of the Board  
J. R. STEWARDS

6 April 1977

Secret

The Annual Report may be obtained, on request, from the  
External Relations Department of the SOCIÉTÉ GÉNÉRALE DE BELGIQUE  
13, rue Brédérode—B 1000 BRUSSELS—BELGIUM  
Tel: 02/513.88.55, extension 38.

Consolidated Gold Fields Limited



## FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

## Encouraging start to new year at Hoover

The first three months of 1977 have come and gone and Hoover has got off to an encouraging start, Mr. P. C. Johnson, chairman, told the annual meeting. Last year, Hoover's pre-tax profits slipped from £20.7m to £17m.

Shareholders were told that the general outlook for Hoover's business is brighter than in 1976, and that, if all goes well, further progress may be expected both at home and abroad.

"The future holds many uncertainties but what I can say with complete conviction is that I am confident Hoover can and will move ahead," he added.

The board was disappointed that the Chancellor's failure to lower VAT on Hoover's products. However, 15 million, or 15 per cent of all homes in Britain have at least one Hoover line.

## Pitney Bowes in hat trick of achievements

Pitney Bowes, the largest United Kingdom mailing equipment manufacturer and exporter, had a record turnover of £16.43m (up 25 per cent over 1975) and pre-tax profits (before tax and loan stock interest) jumped by 67 per cent to £1.56m.

Exports increased by 26 per cent to £5.4m, accounting for 33 per cent of total sales. Mr. J. Gilligan, the chairman, said that United Kingdom business had been strong with a noticeable acceleration in the fourth quarter, following the benefit of increases in the size of the sales force and improved training facilities.

The company achieved its objective of improving delivery times by quicker order turnaround, particularly for export, and ended the year with about 15 per cent less orders outstanding than in January.

Still pushing ahead, Robert McBride (Middleton) reports better pre-tax profits of £1.31m for 1976, against £1.05m. Turnover went up from £5.3m to £7.25m. The gross payment rose up from 6.33p to 6.75p, the maximum. Earnings per share rose from 27.6p to 30.5p. McBride makes domestic chemicals and detergents.

Last year, turnover of Anderson Kayser rose from £12.5m to £10.57m, and pre-tax profits rose from £740,000 to £940,000. Earnings per share rose from 5.68p to 6.89p and the total gross payment is going up from 5.5p to 6.05p.

Even though turnover rose from £18.6m to £17.6m last year, Morris & Blakey Wall's pre-tax profits rose from £739,000 to £795,000. Earnings per share have risen from 7.95p to 8.35p, but the gross payment is at 6.32p.

## Bank Base Rates

Bank	Rate
Barclays Bank	9 1/4
Consolidated Credits	9 1/4
First London Secs	9 1/4
C. Hoare & Co.	9 1/4
Lloyds Bank	9 1/4
Midland Bank	9 1/4
Nat. Westminster	9 1/4
Parsons Trust	14
Williams & Glyn's	9 1/4

6 1/2% deposits on sums of £100,000 and under 6 1/2% on £25,000 and over.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the annual general meeting of the company will be held on Monday, April 11, 1977, at 11 a.m. at the offices of the company, 16 St. Helen's, London EC3A 6ST. There will be an admission card.

BUSINESS

To receive the Reports of the Board of Directors, the Certificate of Dividend, and the company Auditor.

To approve the Balance Sheet, Profit and Loss Account and the appropriation of Profits, for the year ended 31 December, 1976.

To elect Directors and to give discharge to the Directors and to the company Auditor.

to elect share warrants entitled to voting at the meeting should send a certificate of shareholding in an Authorized Depositary, at five business days before the meeting.

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## Commodities

COPPER: Dealers said the recent recovery in copper prices was due to a combination of factors, including a strong start to the new year and a decline in inventories.

SILVER: The silver market was also strong, with prices rising on news of a decline in inventories and a strong start to the new year.

WHEAT: The wheat market was also strong, with prices rising on news of a decline in inventories and a strong start to the new year.

SOYBEANS: The soybean market was also strong, with prices rising on news of a decline in inventories and a strong start to the new year.

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## Foreign Exchange

The yen retreated slightly to 273.38/45, but trading was generally quiet ahead of the long Easter weekend in major centres.

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## Discount market

The Bank of England took advantage of short conditions in the discount market yesterday to make a signal that it was looking for a respite in the regular weekly tender for Treasury bills today.

The authorities lent a moderate sum for 2 days and another moderate sum overnight to one of two houses at MLK (93 per cent).

Clearing banks appeared to be trying to get their balances up ahead of the weekend, so there was a certain amount of calling.

This kept rates pretty high during the morning, with 93 per cent quoted at one stage and with most of the lending confined to 30 days.

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## Wall Street

New York, April 6.—Stock prices closed mostly lower on the New York Stock Exchange after showing a small gain through much of the session.

The Dow Jones Industrial average was off 0.141 to 914.73. Declining issues outnumbered gainers by about 681 to 648.

Volume totalled 16,500,000 shares, compared with 16,300,000 shares yesterday.

Analysts attributed the early gain to internal forces after a long decline.

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Account Days: Dealings Began, March 28, Dealings End, April 7. § Contango Day, April 12. Settlement Day, April 20.

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

**BROW**  
HOMER, DECEMBER







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## TRANSFER BOOKS

BRITISH TRANSPORT DOCS BOARD. Notice is hereby given that the TRANSPORT DOCS BOARD, established by the Transport Act 1962, will be holding its 30th Annual Meeting on 20th April 1977, at 10.30 a.m. at the Grosvenor Hotel, Grosvenor Gardens, London, W.1. Tel: 01-547 7000.

## MISCELLANEOUS FINANCIAL

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL. Notice is hereby given that the HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL, established by the Local Government Act 1972, will be holding its 10th Annual Meeting on 20th April 1977, at 10.30 a.m. at the Grosvenor Hotel, Grosvenor Gardens, London, W.1. Tel: 01-547 7000.

## COMPANY MEETING NOTICES

INTERNATIONAL COMMODITY SOCIETY. Notice is hereby given that the INTERNATIONAL COMMODITY SOCIETY, established by the International Commodity Society Act 1972, will be holding its 10th Annual Meeting on 20th April 1977, at 10.30 a.m. at the Grosvenor Hotel, Grosvenor Gardens, London, W.1. Tel: 01-547 7000.

## LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE. Notice is hereby given that the HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE, established by the High Court of Justice Act 1971, will be holding its 10th Annual Meeting on 20th April 1977, at 10.30 a.m. at the Grosvenor Hotel, Grosvenor Gardens, London, W.1. Tel: 01-547 7000.

## PUBLIC NOTICES

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## London Traffic Inquiry

The London Motorists' Association, with the object of sound public opinion, is organising an INQUIRY to be held on 26-28th April, 1977 at Kensington Old Town Hall, Kensington High Street, London W8 from 10.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. daily concerning the policies and proposals of the GLC for the regulation of traffic and parking, and their impact on inner city life and the industrial and commercial prosperity of the capital.

The INQUIRY will be conducted by Professor Sir Colin Buchanan. Members of the public and interested organisations are invited to attend and to submit observations in writing. Observations should be sent to the Inquiry Secretary not later than 21st April. These may be supplemented by oral response to questions by the Tribunal. A report of the proceedings will be prepared for transmission to the Greater London Council and the Secretaries of State for Transport and Environment.

## SUMMARY OF GLC TRANSPORT POLICY

Main Elements:  
\* To maintain and improve public transport, particularly buses.  
\* To restrict the use of cars.  
\* To manage and improve the road system. Environmental gain rather than traffic capacity to be a major consideration in road construction.

## Principal Measures in force, projected or contemplated.

\* Draconic reduction of on-street meter parking.  
\* Licensing of public carriages, restricted opening hours.  
\* Increased charges to deter the use of the car.  
\* Taxation. In new office and commercial developments provision of parking spaces has for some years been imposed as a condition of planning permission. It is now proposed to tax this selectively at 25 p per week per parking space.  
\* Supplementary licensing: daily levy on vehicle drivers.  
\* Closure of many main traffic routes to cars, lorries, taxis.

Observations should be sent NOT LATER THAN 21st APRIL 1977 to the INQUIRY SECRETARY, London Motorists' Association, 61 Albert Hall Mansions, London SW7 2AG. Telephone: 584 3873.

## LEGAL NOTICES

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## SECRETARIAL

## SECRETARIES

We have vacancies for experienced and capable Secretaries in our Publishing Division and Editorial and Advertising Departments. If you are over 20 years old and educated at least to G.C.E. 'O' level standard with good secretarial skills you could be just the person we need. Excellent working conditions, generous holidays, 4 weeks and 3 days in your first year, a subsidised staff restaurant, and a salary in the region of £2,500 p.a. To arrange an appointment please telephone: 01-837 3311.

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## FLAT SHARING

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## RENTALS

## WANTED

London West Office of U.K. International. Notice is hereby given that the LONDON WEST OFFICE OF U.K. INTERNATIONAL, established by the London West Office of U.K. International Act 1971, will be holding its 10th Annual Meeting on 20th April 1977, at 10.30 a.m. at the Grosvenor Hotel, Grosvenor Gardens, London, W.1. Tel: 01-547 7000.

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